

WINSTON CHURCHILL THE LIFE OF A BORN LEADER



HISTORY

REVEALED

BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE
ISSUE 13 // FEBRUARY 2015 // £3.99



APOLLO 13

"Houston, we have a problem..."

CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE
Into the valley of death

PIRATES

The golden age of piracy: the story of Blackbeard and the buccaneers who ruled the Caribbean

PLUS

**THE HISTORY OF
VALENTINE'S DAY**

MUNICH AIR DISASTER

PRESIDENT NIXON IN CHINA

TRANSPORTATION TO AUSTRALIA



PHEIDIPPIDES

Legend of the first
Marathon Man

**HISTORY'S
GREATEST DOGS**

Man's all-time best friends

BOUDICCA

The Celtic Queen who
took on the Romans



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Welcome



Such is the folklore surrounding the **Golden Age of Piracy**, that it can be hard to tell fact from fiction when it comes to these **tall tales from the high seas**. And, as you'll see from our cover feature, the truth behind the unique series of events that saw the oceans governed by outlaws is every bit as gripping as *Treasure Island*. We weigh anchor on page 26.

Sticking with stories you couldn't make up, the events of the **Apollo 13 Moon mission** (p76) are the ultimate in triumph out of disaster. Conversely, the legend of **Pheidippides and the original marathon** (p62) seems to be more than a little apocryphal. But what do we actually know about this Ancient Greek? And while we're at it, **who exactly was Boudicca** (p82), the Celtic Queen who stood up to the Romans?

More recent events are, understandably, far more thoroughly documented, and we take a look at the life of **one of the 20th century's most celebrated historians** – Britain's iconic war leader, Winston Churchill, who died 50 years ago (p48).

Football fans the world over know the name of this dog. Find out why on page 68



Finally, thanks for all your letters, emails and online comments. We really enjoy reading what you've thought about the issues, and it helps us to see what sort of stories you'd like more of in the future, so **please do keep writing in**. You'll find how to contact us at the bottom left of this page. For now, enjoy the issue!

Paul McGuinness
Editor

Don't miss our next issue, on sale 2 March

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THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

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Attempts to hang murderer John Lee before his execution was cancelled.
See page 15.

142:54:41

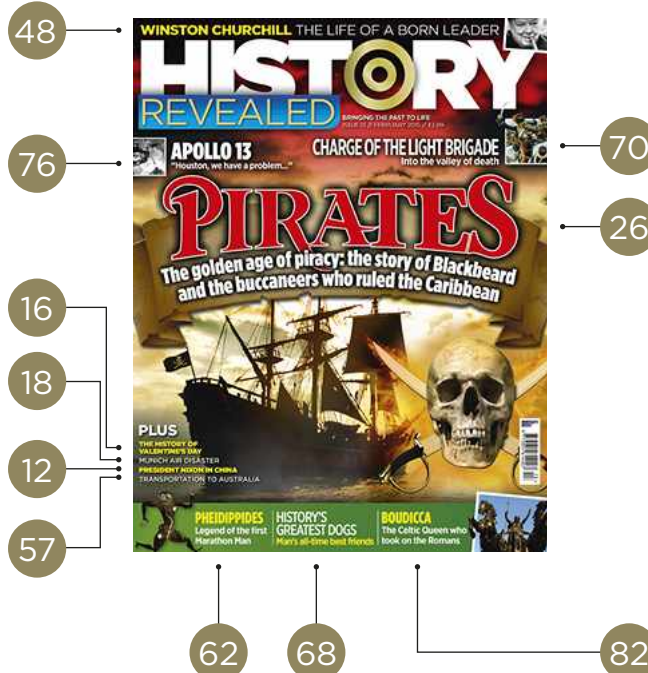
The time on the mission clock of Apollo 13 when the crew safely splashed down in the Pacific Ocean. See page 79.

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The distance in stadia (153 miles) run by Pheidippides between Athens and Sparta. See page 65.

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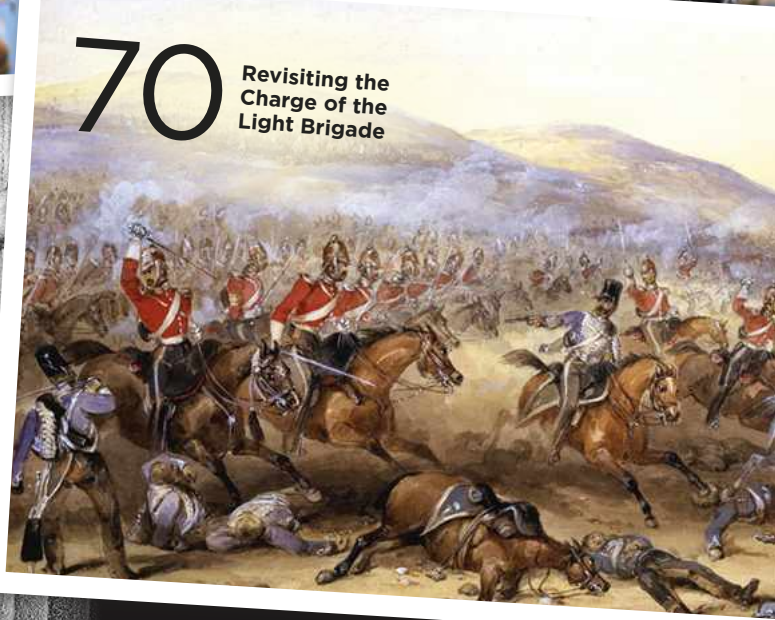
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READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

STICKY SITUATION

In your January 2015 issue you have a small article about “Where did Banoffee Pie come from?”, in which you say two men invented it in 1972.

May I say that my mother was making this pie in the sixties in New Zealand. Its name then was Belgian Pie. When Banoffee Pie appeared

no copyright – but then who copyrights their recipes?

Shirley Draper,
Pembrokeshire

Writer Sandra Lawrence replies:

The concept of milk jam, *dulce de leche* or *confiture du lait* has been around for a long while – the Argentinians and French,

**LETTER
OF THE
MONTH**

My mother was making this pie in the sixties in New Zealand. Its name then was Belgian Pie.

on the chef's scene during the eighties and nineties, I discovered the recipe was the same as Mum's. The names ‘Banoffee’ and ‘Belgium’ were so close, I presumed then it was a New Zealand name for a pie that had been around for years. It is a coincidence that the recipe should be the same and yet ‘invented’ in 1972. Maybe that is the reason for

among several others, claim its invention, and boiling condensed milk in a tin to make toffee has backfired in many a school dorm.

When I interviewed Nigel Mackenzie a few years ago, he was adamant it was invented at the Hungry Monk (the restaurant even has its own ‘blue plaque’ for the dessert). I don't doubt the dish was ‘created’ by chef Ian Dowding (he calls it

‘evolved’) and the name made up by Mackenzie but, as they say, there is nothing new under the sun. While Henry Fox Talbot was inventing ‘photography’ in Dorset, over in France, Louis Daguerre was working on his own version, and several people across the world independently developed a concept that would become the telephone.

It would appear that you're not the first person to question the pie's provenance either, Shirley. If you have a dated sixties photo of your mum with a Belgian Pie

THE ROOT OF PIE Which came first, the Banoffee or the Belgian?

– and a time machine – you could be quids-in. In 1994, after M&S were forced to apologise for mislabelling their version of the pie, Mackenzie offered a reward of £10,000 to anyone who could prove the dessert wasn't his! [www.banoffee.co.uk/telegraph.html](http://www.banoffee.co.uk/banoffee/telegraph.html)

Shirley Draper wins *The Story of the British and Their Weather* by Patrick Nobbs. Published by Amberley Books, worth £20. This compelling read tells the tale of the British climate across the ages, recounting the greatest stories from its stormy past.



A TITANIC FAILURE

Re ‘Why were so few on board the *Titanic* rescued?’ (Q&A, January 2015). The *Titanic* could have carried three times as many lifeboats as she did. Enough to save all on board. But those boats would have spoiled the view from the first-class cabins.

Blaming the *SS Californian* and *SS Parisian*'s failure to arrive is a red herring. The *SS Parisian* was about 50 miles away and would not have got there before the *Titanic* sank. Those in the freezing water only survived a few minutes. The *SS Californian* was stationary in an icefield about 10 miles away and would probably have taken two hours to reach the *Titanic*. If you steam through an icefield on moonless night, with



no wind and no swell, you are likely to hit an iceberg because you cannot see it until the last minute. This, combined with a lack of lifeboats, is the reason so few were saved.

Geoff Bantock, via email

Yet again, another brilliant issue – have read it cover to cover, brilliant articles, but my favourite was the article about the gunfight at the OK Corral – didn't know Wyatt Earp used to be a pimp!
Ronnie Hancox

SURVIVOR VESSEL Only 705 out of some 2,200 people made it into the *Titanic*'s lifeboats

MISDIAGNOSIS?

Your article ‘Madness of King George’ (The Reel Story, January 2015) particularly attracted my attention. The idea that George III suffered from a form of porphyria (an inherited condition) was largely the result of publications in the sixties by Ida Macalpine and her son Richard Hunter who were both psychiatrists. There followed much discussion in the medical press, particularly in the *British Medical Journal*. The conclusion now seems that he may well not have had porphyria but

bipolar disorder, made worse in some ways by his decreasing visual acuity (due to cataracts) and apparent deafness. The argument that his illness may have been in part responsible for the loss of America continues!

Alan Emery, via email

Can't wait for the next issue of @HistoryRevMag as its even better than sliced bread.... @swanmission

COST OF VICTORY

With reference to the article on Iwo Jima (Battlefield, January 2015), you posed the question: "Does any victory justify the loss of so much life?"

In any war the question must be 'Is the ultimate victory gained preferable to the alternative, which may result in even more deaths?' In the case of Iwo Jima, what would happen if there had been no Allied victory in the Pacific? A militaristic Japanese government had proved its aggression and disregard for human life even before World War II, through its dealings with China, and then proceeded during the war to conquer much of the Western Pacific.

In this instance, the victory required demanded such a high toll because of the mindset of the Japanese army, who were loath both to take prisoners and to become prisoners themselves, and who would often fight

fanatically in order to inflict as much damage as possible. I would think that commanders generally prefer to win battles with as little loss of life as possible, but sometimes factors militate against this, and Iwo Jima is one such case.

Louise Whittaker, via email

MYSTERY MAN

Can you help? Following your excellent explorers feature (December 2014) I decided to do some research on the adventurers' better halves. However, I have found conflicting evidence about Captain John Smith. Several websites say he was married with 11 children, yet in his book on the man, the author RL Pritchard suggests Smith was not married according to his will. What is the right answer please?

Ron Templeton, via email

Writer Pat Kinsella replies:

Most evidence suggests that Smith didn't marry or have any descendants - none that he

admitted anyway. Indeed, it's hard to imagine where he would have found the time to father 11 children if he really did everything he claimed in his 51 years on the planet. Interestingly, he talked about the New World itself as his family: "[the colonies are] my children for they have bin my wife, my hawks, my hounds, my cards".

Absolutely love your magazine and didn't rest till I managed to get hold of all your issues to date! As a Gibraltarian loved the little Gib Referendum mention in your summer edition. Keep up the really good work. Your articles are interesting, and fun and you successfully steer clear of boring narrative pieces. Would be especially pleased if future issues feature more on British Gibraltar - a great and often little known about, contributor to British history. Kevin Ruiz

CROSSWORD N°10 WINNERS

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 10 are:

Barrie Vinten, Warwickshire
Edward Quelch, Surrey
Stephen Kloppe, Croydon

Well done! You have each won a copy of *The Rhyme of King Harold*, worth £20.

To try your wits against this month's crossword, turn to page 96.

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BATTLE ON THE BEACHES

With 25,000 casualties, victory at Iwo Jima came at a high price



AGE OF ADVENTURE
 Ron went on his own voyage of discovery after reading about the great explorers

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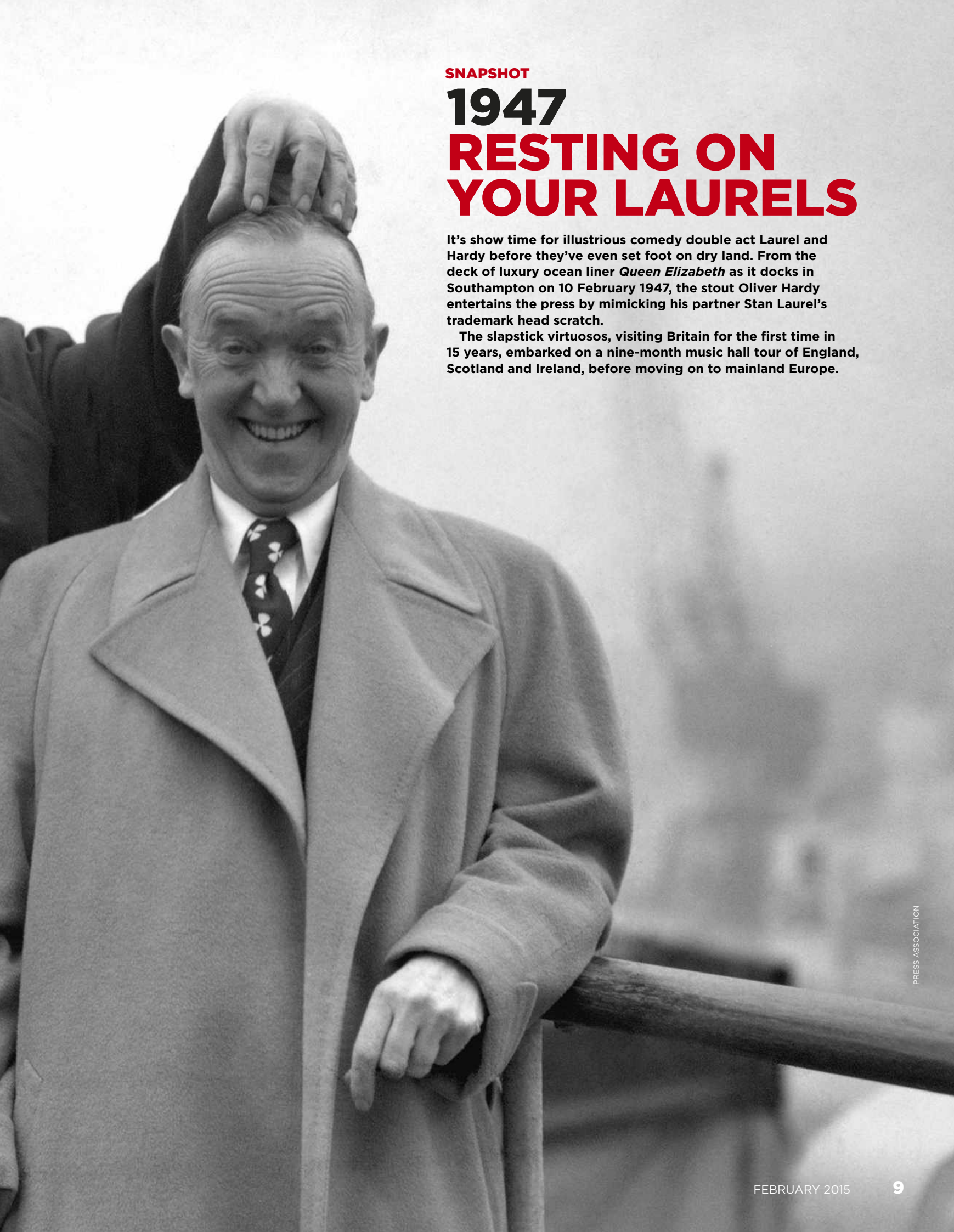




TIME CAPSULE

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY





SNAPSHOT

1947 RESTING ON YOUR LAURELS

It's show time for illustrious comedy double act Laurel and Hardy before they've even set foot on dry land. From the deck of luxury ocean liner *Queen Elizabeth* as it docks in Southampton on 10 February 1947, the stout Oliver Hardy entertains the press by mimicking his partner Stan Laurel's trademark head scratch.

The slapstick virtuosos, visiting Britain for the first time in 15 years, embarked on a nine-month music hall tour of England, Scotland and Ireland, before moving on to mainland Europe.



TIME CAPSULE
FEBRUARY





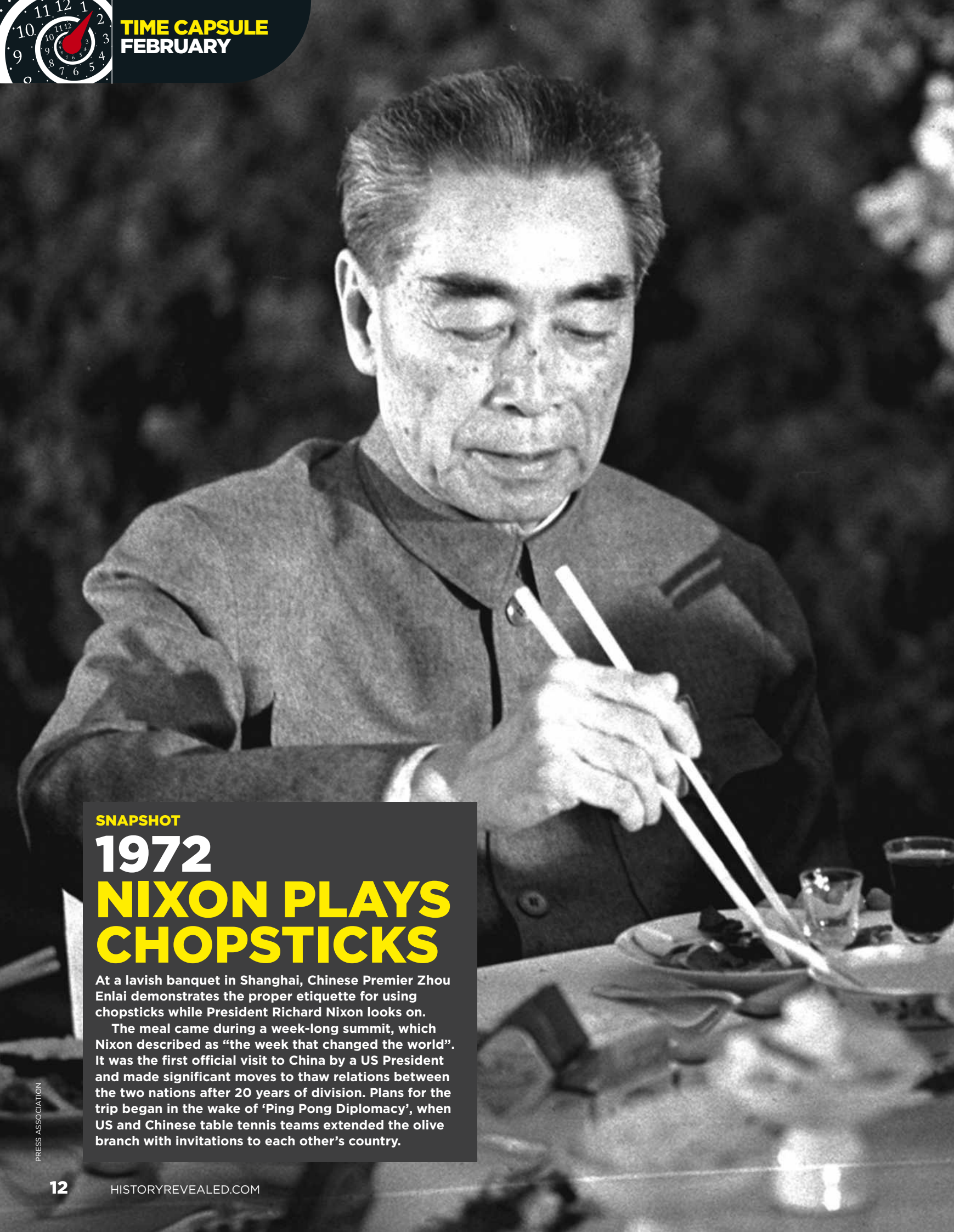
SNAPSHOT

1951 FLIPPING FUN RUN

With aprons tied and frying pans in hand, the 1951 competitors are underway in the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake race in the small Buckinghamshire town of Olney.

The strange sprint dates back to 1445.

As the story goes, a townswoman was running late for the Shroving service as she was making pancakes, the tradition on Shrove Tuesday. When she heard the church bell toll, she ran the 380 metres in her apron, still grasping her frying pan.



SNAPSHOT

1972 NIXON PLAYS CHOPSTICKS

At a lavish banquet in Shanghai, Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai demonstrates the proper etiquette for using chopsticks while President Richard Nixon looks on.

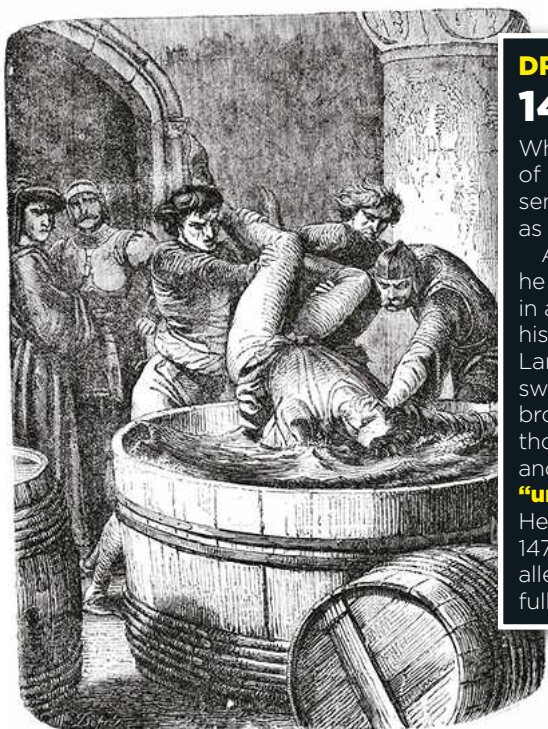
The meal came during a week-long summit, which Nixon described as “the week that changed the world”. It was the first official visit to China by a US President and made significant moves to thaw relations between the two nations after 20 years of division. Plans for the trip began in the wake of ‘Ping Pong Diplomacy’, when US and Chinese table tennis teams extended the olive branch with invitations to each other’s country.





"I READ THE NEWS TODAY..."

Weird and wonderful, it all happened in **February**



DRINK YOURSELF TO DEATH 1478 LIQUIDATED

When George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence, was handed a death sentence, it could hardly have come as a surprise.

As the **Wars of the Roses** raged, he switched from York to Lancaster in a plot to seize the crown from his own brother, Edward IV. The Lancastrians snubbed him so he switched back again, only for the brotherly love not to last. George, thought to be preparing yet another rebellion, was arrested for **"unnatural and loathly treasons"**. He was executed on 18 February 1478 at the Tower of London, allegedly by being drowned in a butt full of his **favourite Malmsey wine**.

FALSE GODS IN PACIFIC PARADISE 1779 COOK KILLED

Between 1778-79, the great British explorer and navigator Captain James Cook visited the Hawaiian Islands twice (the only European to have done so) where he and his crew were **welcomed as gods**. In early February 1779, he sailed his ships away, only to be forced to return by rough seas. The islanders were angered to see their gods come back, so attacked. On 14 February, Cook was **cut down and killed**. Yet his body was still treated with respect – it was given burial rituals reserved for chiefs or elders.



HOLY PLEAS FOR A SNEEZE AD 600 POPE GREGORY GIVES GOD'S BLESSING

Today, saying 'God bless you' after the **explosive sneeze** of a poor sufferer of the common cold or hay fever is nothing more than social politeness. But when Pope Gregory first announced the phrase as the correct response to a sneeze, it held a much more serious meaning.

In the late-sixth and early-seventh centuries, Europe was in the thralls of **bubonic plague** – the same killer disease that caused the Black Death. As one of the first symptoms of the plague was sneezing, Gregory the Great decreed that every sneeze should be followed by a blessing from God in the hope it would **protect people from illness**.



**GOD BLESS
YOU!**





SPY GAMES

During World War II, Monopoly games were sent to prisoners of war in Nazi-occupied Europe with maps and messages hidden in the boards.

ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK 1935 MAKING MONOPOLY MONEY

Love it or hate it, Monopoly has been the source of both family fun and feuds for **80 years** now. The buying and trading board game – where the goal is to make as much money as possible – was developed by inventor Charles Darrow, who was inspired by an early-20th-century board game named *The Landlord's Game*. His original version, based in Atlantic City, New Jersey, first went on sale in the US in February 1935, at the height of the **Great Depression**.



One review of the performance described *Swan Lake* as "too noisy, too Wagnerian and too symphonic"

SWAN QUEEN FLOUNDERS 1877 EN POINTE OF NO RETURN

The premiere of *Swan Lake*, now a beloved ballet, in Russia didn't go well. **Critics hated** the Bolshoi Ballet's performance and a government official had demanded the removal of lead ballerina, Anna Sobeshchanskaya, after he had tried to woo her with expensive jewellery, only for her to sell it and **marry someone else**. Despite its initial lukewarm response, *Swan Lake* eventually became a success.

"...OH BOY"

February events that changed the world

11 FEBRUARY 660 BC LAND OF THE RISING SUN

The traditional date given for the founding of Japan and the accession of the nation's first Emperor.

15 FEBRUARY AD 399 THE TRIAL OF SOCRATES

Ancient Greek philosopher Socrates is sentenced to death.

20 FEBRUARY 1472 LAVISH WEDDING GIFT

Instead of a dowry, the Orkney and Shetland Isles are bequeathed to Scotland by Norway.

4 FEBRUARY 1789 AMERICA HAS A PRESIDENT

George Washington is elected as the first President of the United States.

21 FEBRUARY 1848 MARX MAKES HIS MARK

Revolutionary socialist Karl Marx publishes his *Communist Manifesto*.

13-15 FEBRUARY 1945 DRESDEN BOMBING

The German city of Dresden is reduced to rubble in days of ferocious bombing.

16 FEBRUARY 1959 CASTRO FOR CUBA

After ousting the Cuban dictator Batista, Fidel Castro is sworn in as Prime Minister.

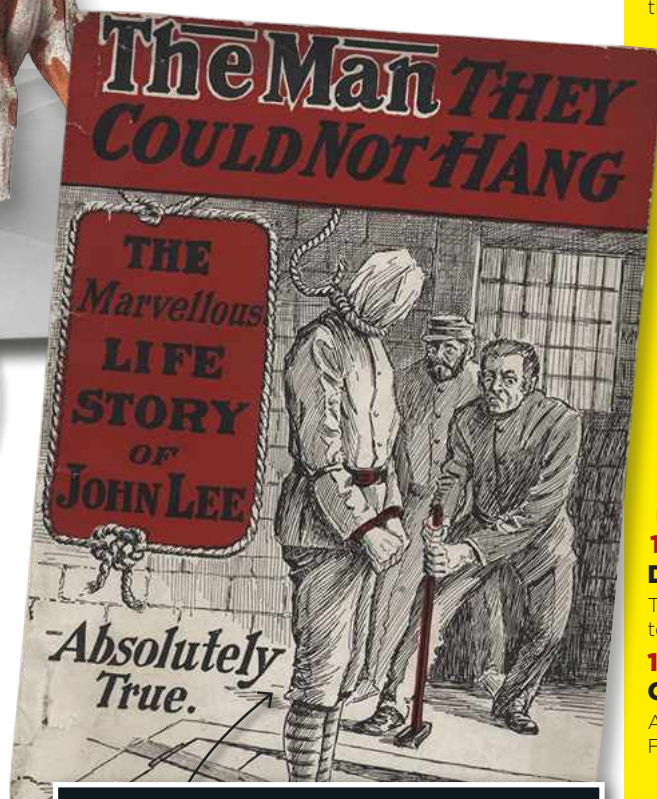
AND FINALLY...

After landing at Fishguard, Wales, on 22 February 1797, a French force of some 1,400 soldiers (mostly irregulars and convicts) **surrendered after just two days**. It is the last invasion, albeit futile, of Britain.



MILK DELIVERY 1930 COW ON THE MOO-VE

On 18 February 1930, Guernsey cow Elm Farm Ollie made bovine history by becoming the **first cow ever to ride in a plane**. As part of the International Air Exposition, she took to the skies over Missouri so scientists could study how animals could cope with air travel. But Elm Farm Ollie was known to be a particularly productive cow so she was also milked while in the air. The **milk was parachuted** to spectators below – a glass of which was reportedly enjoyed by aviator **Charles Lindbergh**.



DIVINE INTERVENTION 1885 HANGING ON

Convicted murderer John Lee, with the noose around his neck, was **seconds from death** on 23 February 1885, yet Lee walked away minutes later. Despite tests beforehand, the trap door failed to open in **three attempts** to carry out the execution. To many, this was a sign of God's intervention as the evidence of his guilt was weak. Lee still served 22 years in prison before he was released in 1907.

GRAPHIC HISTORY

A visual guide to the past

AD 496 A DAY FOR VALENTINE

For more than 1,500 years, 14 February has been a celebrated saint's day. But has it always been a romantic occasion?

WHO WAS THE SAINT?

There is no definitive proof about the identity of the man behind the name St Valentine. Indeed, several saints bear the same name.

The holy man whose name now defines 14 February is most likely a third-century Roman priest called Valentinus. At that time, the Empire was ruled by Claudius II, who had strong anti-church convictions. He was deeply opposed to marriage and made it unlawful.

In contravention of Claudius II's demands, Valentinus performed secret wedding ceremonies, for which he would pay the ultimate price.

On 14 February in c269 AD, he was given a three-way execution – beaten, stoned and decapitated. He is believed to have left a note to his jailer's daughter, whom he befriended; it was signed "from your Valentine".

When Pope Gelasius took charge of the now-flourishing Catholic Church in the late-fifth century, he had Valentinus canonised and made 14 February a Christian celebration in Valentine's name.



First century BC

When they invade Britain and France, the Romans introduce Lupercalia, a **pagan fertility festival** held from 13-15 February.



496 AD

With Christianity now Rome's dominant religion, Pope Gelasius bans the pagan Lupercalia, declaring 14 February to be St Valentine's Day. It is now a **Christian feast day** honouring an executed priest (see 'Who was the saint?', left).



1848

Massachusetts artist and entrepreneur Esther Howland follows Britain's lead and produces the US's **first-ever Valentine's Day card**.



1797

To aid **tongue-tied suitors**, an enterprising British publisher produces *The Young Man's Valentine Writer*, a book filled with love poems and messages for readers to pass off as their own.



1861

Richard Cadbury produces the first Valentine's Day chocolates. The box features a painting of his daughter **holding a kitten** in her arms.



2011

The bosses at Iran's printing presses are left in no doubt about the authorities' view on 14 February: "Printed material containing roses, hearts or any form of promotion of **Valentine's Day is forbidden**," explains a dictat issued by the country's rulers. "Whoever violates this order will be subjected to prosecution."



25%

The increase in condom sales in the United States on St Valentine's Day. Not everyone is so prepared, though. March is the busiest month for sales of pregnancy tests.



1,000,000,000

The number of Valentine's cards sent out worldwide every year. Figures suggest up to 40% of these are sent by parents to their children.



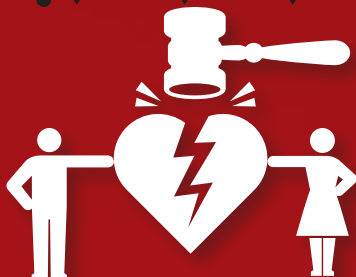
1382

What's believed to be the first connection of **St Valentine's Day and love** is made by Geoffrey Chaucer. In *Parlement Of Foules*, he writes: "For it was on St Valentine's Day / When every fowl cometh there to choose his mate." He could, though, be referring to 2 May; this was the saint's day of Valentine of Genoa and is a more likely time for birds to mate.



1400

The **High Court of Love** opens on St Valentine's Day in Paris. Its purpose is to offer advice on matters of the heart, including marriages, divorces and adultery.



1416

Having been captured at the Battle of Agincourt, Charles, Duke of Orléans, writes a love note to his wife, Maria of Cleves, from prison. It's believed to be the **earliest recorded** Valentine's love message.



1653

As well as Christmas, England's Lord Protector **Oliver Cromwell** suppresses **St Valentine's Day**, along with all other feast days. The love-themed celebration returns with the Restoration, when King Charles II (right) is crowned.



1601

In William Shakespeare's **Hamlet**, Ophelia makes reference to 14 February: "Tomorrow is Saint Valentine's Day / All in the morning be time / And I a maid at your window / To be your Valentine."



1590

That staple of Valentine's messages - "**Roses are red...**" - finds its origins in *The Faerie Queene*, the epic poem by Edmund Spenser. "She bath'd with roses red, and violets blew / And all the sweetest flowres that in the forrest grew."



1913

Hallmark sells its first-ever Valentine's Day card. Today, Hallmark's range boasts over **1,000 different designs**.



1919

In a move unsentimental in its timing, **Albert Einstein** and Mileva Maric, his wife of 11 years, divorce on 14 February. On a happier note, many famous people subsequently choose the date to **get married**, among them Raquel Welch, Elton John and Buzz Aldrin.



1929

In another far-from-romantic gesture, six members of 'Bugs' Moran's gang, plus a mechanic, are executed in a Chicago garage by associates of gangster Al Capone. The slayings, part of an ongoing mob turf war, are dubbed the **St Valentine's Day Massacre**.



1978

White Day is introduced in Japan. Held exactly one month after St Valentine's Day (when Japanese women are traditionally the ones to give gifts to their beloved), **14 March** becomes the day when men return the gesture and offer expressions of their love.



1973

The famous 'Love' print (right), created by American artist Robert Indiana, is used for a Valentine-themed, eight-cent stamp issued by the US Post Office. The stamp raises **\$25 million** for the postal service's coffers.



1969

Concerned that the celebration had, in part due to its commercialisation, lost its meaning, Pope Paul VI **removes Valentine's Day** from the General Roman Calendar.



10%

The proportion of all wedding proposals that are made on 14 February.



8,000,000,000



The number of heart-shaped Sweethearts sweets manufactured each year. Sales reach a crescendo in the run-up to St Valentine's Day.

3%

The proportion of pet owners in the United States who give their animals a Valentine's gift come 14 February.





Daily Mirror

FRI
FEB 7
1958

2^p FORWARD WITH THE PEOPLE
+ No. 16,843

SOCCER AIR TRAGEDY

Manchester United plane crashes

**21
dead**



THE END The chartered Elizabethan airliner in which the Manchester United team was travelling home lies shattered in a snowfield near Munich. The pilot, Captain James Thain, escaped alive from the smashed nose

WHAT WENT WRONG?

Blame for the crash initially fell on Captain James Thain who, according to an investigation, hadn't de-iced the wings. Thain **spent a decade fighting this decision** - he was cleared in 1968 and it was concluded that slush slowed the plane down, causing the crash.



CRUNCHIE
makes
exciting 4^p
biting!



THE BEGINNING This picture was taken when the team, accompanied by sports writers, boarded the plane at Manchester on Monday. Left to right, with known survivors marked with asterisk: Jackie Blanchflower*; Billy Foulkes*; Walter Crickmer, secretary; Don Davies, Man-

chester Guardian; Roger Byrne, captain; Duncan Edwards*; Albert Scanlon* - just visible behind Scanlon is Frank Swift. News of the World; Ray Wood*; Dennis Viollet*; Archie Ledbrooke, Daily Mirror; Geoff Bent; Mark Jones and Alf Clarke, Kemsley Newspapers.

AN Elizabethan airliner—on charter to Manchester United football team, the fabulous "Busby Babes"—crashed on take-off at Munich Airport, Germany, yesterday, and plunged the world of Soccer into mourning.

Twenty-one men — among them some of the brightest stars in British football—died.

Seven Manchester United players who died were:

Roger Byrne (Capt.), Tommy Taylor, Mark Jones, Eddie Colman, Billy Whelan, David Pegg, Geoff Bent.

Also dead was ex-England goalkeeper and sports writer Frank Swift.

In hospital, fighting for his life, was manager Matt Busby.

Not far from him ace centre half Jackie Blanchflower lay with a broken pelvis.

Twenty-three of the 44 passengers survived.

Among the dead was Archie Ledbrooke, the Mirror's famous Northern sports writer. His last story is on Page 21.

● **THE CRASH**—Story and pictures Back Page and Page 5.
● **THE TEAM** in the Tragedy—See Centre Pages.

**—Blackest Day of
All—By Peter Wilson
—See Page 23—**

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

On **7 February 1958** the fate of the 'Busby Babes' rocked the football world

"YOUNG PLAYERS AT THEIR PEAK TAKEN AWAY"

Under the inspirational management of Matt Busby, Manchester United were on the verge of football immortality. The young squad – the 'Busby Babes' – had won the First Division title two years in a row and was the first English club to enter the European Cup.

Then at 3.04pm on 6 February 1958, disaster struck. The team, on its way back to England from a match, boarded a plane at Munich Airport in the midst of a snowstorm, which coated the runway in slush. On the third attempted take-off, the plane skidded off the runway and through the perimeter fence. The plane ploughed across a road, hit a house, lost a wing and collided with a truck. When the plane finally screeched to a halt, the fuselage was crushed and smoking and it was clear that many of the 44 on board had died.

Among the immediate fatalities were seven players, including team captain Roger Byrne, whose wife discovered she was expecting their first child just days later. The injured were rushed to Rechts der Isar Hospital, many in critical condition and, over the following weeks, the death toll rose to 23. Duncan Edwards, tipped to be one the sport's all-time greats, passed away on 21 February.

With Busby recovering, Jimmy Murphy took over management. As Manchester mourned, he had to fill a team sheet for a game against Sheffield Wednesday only 13 days after the crash. He was signing players right until kick-off – the match programme was, poignantly, left blank. But, in a powerful display of spirit and camaraderie, United won 3-0.

The Busby Babes have achieved immortality, but sadly not for their exploits on the pitch. 🕒

AT DEATH'S DOOR

Matt Busby's injuries were so severe that he stayed in hospital for two months, and was **read his Last Rites twice**. Unable to fulfil his role as manager, he gave control to his trusted assistant Jimmy Murphy, saying, "Keep the flag flying, Jimmy".



SAVING THE DAY

When goalkeeper Harry Gregg escaped the plane, he started pulling people out from the wreckage including **a pregnant woman and her baby**. He went on to play in the club's next game on 19 February.

ABOVE:
Manchester United manager Matt Busby lies in an oxygen tent in the Munich hospital

RIGHT:
Harry Gregg saves a shot during the first United match since the crash



1958 ALSO IN THE NEWS...

1 FEBRUARY In a hasty response to the successful Sputnik 1 and 2 missions by the Soviet Union, the United States launches its first ever satellite, named **Explorer 1**, into space.

17 FEBRUARY Saint Clare of Assisi is made **patron saint of television** by Pope Pius XII on the basis that, when she couldn't attend Mass, she would be able to see and hear it on the wall of her room.

21 FEBRUARY British artist Gerald Holtom designs a symbol for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. It is soon adopted as the now internationally recognised **peace symbol**.



UNITED TRIBES FLAG

In 1834, James Busby had suggested a **new flag be adopted** in the hope it would inspire unity among the many Māori tribes. The United Tribes Flag still flies in the grounds where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed.



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The hastily written Treaty of Waitangi – New Zealand’s founding document

1840 MĀORI SIGN KEY AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH CROWN

The treaty established Britain’s presence in New Zealand and secured some Māori rights, but wasn’t welcomed by everyone

Every year on 6 February, the people of New Zealand celebrate Waitangi Day to commemorate the day an important document – the Treaty of Waitangi – was signed by the British and dozens of Māori tribes. The 1840 treaty appeared to be a sign of a strong, peaceful partnership between two nations (especially compared to the British relations with the Native Americans and Australian Aborigines) but it was written in less than a week. This haste would lead to wildly disparate interpretations of the treaty and years of contention and conflict.

QUICK-FIRE DIPLOMACY

Naval Captain William Hobson was sent to New Zealand, arriving on 29 January, with the order of establishing British sovereignty.

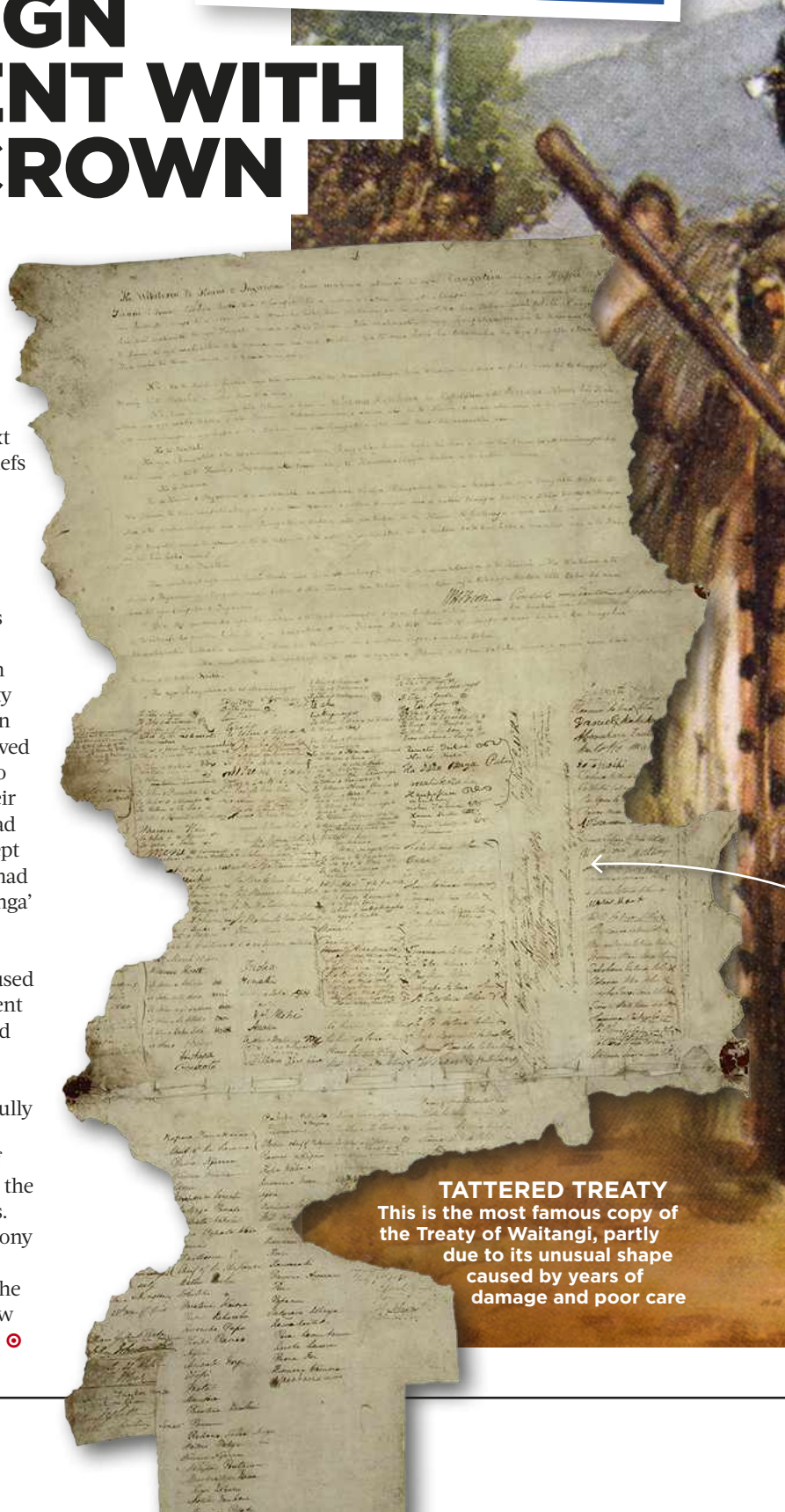
He went to work immediately and with the help of his secretary James Freeman and the official British Resident James Busby (who had worked with the Māori for years), a treaty was prepared in a matter of days. The document was then translated into Māori over a single night by missionary Henry Williams and his son Edward before being presented to a gathering of chiefs in the garden of Busby’s home in Waitangi.

Hobson believed the Māori would debate for days. The next morning, however, over 40 chiefs announced their intention to sign. A rushed ceremony was planned for that morning.

POINTS OF VIEW

Before the ink had dried, holes emerged in the treaty and it looked like the Māori had been duped. To the British, the treaty ceded full sovereignty to Queen Victoria, while the Māori believed they were permitting Britain to govern while not giving up their own authority. As the Māori had no understanding of the concept of sovereignty, the word itself had been replaced with ‘kawanatanga’ (or ‘governance’).

Article Two protected Maori ownership, although again caused confusion as there were different meanings of ‘property’. Around 500 more tribes signed copies of the treaty over the next few months, either as they didn’t fully understand the complications or wanted to take advantage of Article Three, which promised the Māori rights as British subjects. But soon, increased British colony building angered many Maori, resulting in war. Yet to many, the Treaty of Waitangi remains New Zealand’s founding document. ○



TATTERED TREATY

This is the most famous copy of the Treaty of Waitangi, partly due to its unusual shape caused by years of damage and poor care

MAKING THEIR MARK

Most Māori chiefs couldn't write so drew symbols next to their name on the treaty. When each one made their mark, William Hobson declared in Māori, "**He iwi tahi tātou**" – meaning "We are now one people".

GOOD OR BAD SIGN?

The Māori chiefs debated the Treaty of Waitangi for just five hours – the first chief to sign was named Hone Heke

DRESSING UP

William Hobson is always shown to be in full military garb in depictions of the signing, but he was actually wearing plain clothes. The Māori chiefs so surprised him with their readiness to sign the treaty that he didn't get dressed properly. By some accounts, Hobson was said to be **wearing his dressing gown**.

PRESERVING HISTORY

The original treaty was nearly destroyed in 1841 when government offices burned down in Auckland, where it was being kept. For years, it was stored in a basement, where it was **badly damaged by water and rats**. Since then, extensive work has been carried out to preserve the document.

"Before the ink had dried, holes emerged in the treaty and it looked like the Māori had been duped."

THE EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF...

The tragic, unjust ends of **John Horwood** and Eliza Bolsom

1821 WOMAN'S DEATH RESULTS IN THE HANGING OF HER JILTED LOVER

Eliza Bolsom's suspicious death on 17 February 1821 was blamed on her former boyfriend – but was he really the killer?

While out carousing in late January 1821, the 17-year-old John Horwood spotted the woman who recently broke his heart. When Eliza Bolsom ended their relationship, the distraught Horwood threatened violent retribution – going as far as wishing death upon her – so when he saw his erstwhile sweetheart strolling with a new suitor, William Waddy, something snapped. He scooped up and flung a stone in their direction, which knocked her on the temple and sent her tumbling into a stream. Eliza was understandably shaken and hurt, but the injury was minor. The assault, however, would lead to the deaths of both the victim and her attacker.

ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY Horwood, an uneducated miner from the outskirts of Bristol and the youngest of ten children, had threatened Eliza's safety before. He swore to "mash her bones to pieces" if he saw her with another man and, in a shocking earlier

attack, he threw an acidic substance at her, burning her dress. The incident with the stone was further proof he was a menace to Eliza, but doesn't necessarily mean he was responsible for her death.

The cut on her head was treated at home and Eliza only went to Bristol Royal Infirmary many days after the attack to have it dressed. Experienced surgeon Dr Richard Smith's diagnosis was more severe, saying it was important to operate, which involved drilling a hole in her head. The operation was bungled and a week later, on 17 February, Eliza died from an abscess.

Shortly before her death, Smith saw her condition worsening and informed the authorities of the initial attack, perhaps to distract attention from his mistake. Horwood, who appeared callous and unrepentant, was arrested. He didn't help his case by resisting arrest, fighting police and writing these damning words

"Curs'd is the hand that gave the blow, and curs'd the fatal stone. Which made thy precious life blood flow, for it has me undone."

Excerpt from a poem addressed to Eliza Bolsom, written by John Horwood on the day of his execution

HORWOOD'S HORRIBLE HANGING

At the time of Horwood's execution, hanging was not intended to break the neck – causing instant death. Instead, the hanged person would suffer for **several minutes** as they are strangled.



BONE TO PICK

After Mary Halliwell was made the legal owner of Horwood's skeleton, she denounced Dr Smith saying, "I am angry that a human being could do something **so barbaric** to another person."

SKELETON IN THE CLOSET Before the proper burial in 2011, John Horwood's skeleton hung in a cupboard in Bristol University – with a noose around its neck

from his cell: "Lord, thou knowest that I did not mean to take away her life but merely to punish her, though I confess that I had made up my mind, some time or other, to murder her."

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

So when it came to his trial on 11 April (the day after his 18th birthday), it came down to his reputation against Smith's, who was a key witness for the



A REAL PAGE AND STOMACH TURNER

Although a book bound in human skin is disgusting, they actually don't look at all different to a normal leather-bound book. *The Skin of John Horwood* is kept at the **M Shed in Bristol**.

OUT OF YOUR SKIN

Using notes on the case and dissection, and a sketch of the attack, this book was compiled and bound using Horwood's skin



PORTRAIT OF A KILLER

This sketch of John Horwood comes from the book bound with his own skin

prosecution. The one-day trial was held at the Star Inn in Bedminster and relied heavily on Smith's testimony, which ensured that all the blame fell on Horwood's attack, and ignored his own botched treatment. Condemned to death, Horwood was hanged at Bristol's New Gaol two days later, earning him the ignominious honour of being the first to be executed at the prison. Public executions were popular so thousands came out

to see Horwood hang – so many that the prison authorities were concerned that spectators would spill into the adjoining river.

The doctor's role was still far from over. After the hanging, Horwood's body wasn't given to his family, but to Smith for dissection and medical study (an accepted use for the corpses of criminals at the time). Horwood's family had pleaded for a proper burial, but he refused and their plan to steal the body was foiled.

For years, Smith kept the body in a cupboard at his home, still with the noose around its neck, and used it in his medical classes.

HORROR STORY

To add ghoulish insult to the injury inflicted on Horwood, Smith had the body flayed and used the skin to bind a book of his notes on both Horwood's trial and dissections. Again, it was relatively common to use the bodies of criminals for this

practice. The tome, embossed with the images of gallows, skulls and crossbones, has the Latin title *Cutis Vera Johannis Horwood* (*The Skin of John Horwood*) in Smith's morbid attempt at a joke.

Horwood's skeleton remained on display until 2011, when Mary Halliwell – his brother's great-great-great-granddaughter – arranged a proper funeral. At 1.30pm on 13 April 2011, 190 years to the hour after he was hanged, Horwood was finally buried in his home village of Hanham. 📍



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Was John Horwood's sentence justice or an indictment of the harsh legal system?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

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HISTORY
REVEALED



PIRATES

The Golden Age of Piracy: the story of Blackbeard and the buccaneers who ruled the Caribbean

WHAT'S THE STORY?

The 17th century saw the rise of an anarchic era of maritime lawlessness – particularly around the newly discovered and richly exploited territories and islands of the Americas. This was a time of great fear on the open waves. It was the Golden Age of Piracy.

Explosive personalities and daring-but-dastardly deeds from this period have ricocheted through time, resonating with the inner rebel and rogue in all of us, and resulting in the creation of such characters as Captain Hook, Long John Silver and Captain Jack Sparrow. Some of the real pirates of the period would leave all of these fictional villains for dead in a genuine Buccaneer of the Year contest, however.

With their audacious heists, unorthodox fighting tactics, libertarian lifestyles and extraordinary displays of bravery and brutality, names such as Edward Teach (Blackbeard), Bartholomew Roberts (Black Bart), and Henry Every (the Arch Pirate) – as well as many of their crew, including femme fatales Anne Bonny and Mary Read – became infamous. Read on, as **Pat Kinsella** reveals how these renegade captains became some of the most colourful criminals in history.



NOW READ ON...

NEED TO KNOW

- 1 The Dawn of the Golden Age of Piracy **p28**
- 2 Hunting Grounds **p30**
- 3 Yo Ho! A Pirate's Life **p32**
- 4 In the Name of the Law **p34**
- 5 Queens of the Sea **p36**

TIMELINE

The key triumphs, treasures and more **p38**

BLACKBEARD

The most notorious pirate of them all **p41**

GET HOOKED

Ahoy – more piratical treasures! **p47**







WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The term 'buccaneer' originates from a Caribbean word describing a method of **smoking meat** favoured by French settlers on Hispaniola. The Spanish evicted these settlers, but they got their **revenge**, plundering treasure-laden galleons throughout the Caribbean in the 17th century.

MEN-O-WAR

Pirates risked life and limb for their hard-won booty, and battles were often brutal, as seen in this 18th-century drawing

1

DAWN OF THE GOLDEN AGE OF PIRACY

As the treasures of the newly discovered Americas were being ferried across the Atlantic, so the seas swelled with tyrannical pirates

Piracy has existed for as long as boats have been used as a means of transporting goods. Ancient civilisations such as the Phoenicians, the Greeks and the Romans all dabbled in – and suffered from – piracy, and it was a way of life for the Vikings.

The Age of Exploration, and especially the discovery of the silver- and gold-spangled Americas, provoked a huge escalation of high-seas shenanigans, however, as previously

unimaginable quantities of treasure were shipped between the New World and Europe.

When the ink dried on the revised world map, Spain had secured much of the Americas and immediately stripped its new territories of as much bounty as they could load onto their galleons. This proved a tempting target, not just for individual opportunists, but also for rival countries.

During the rule of Elizabeth I (1558-1603), marauding English privateers known as the Sea Dogs – including Francis Drake and Walter Raleigh – mercilessly harassed Spanish ships

and settlements throughout the New World. Her successor, James I of England and VI of Scotland, agreed to end privateering by signing the *Treaty of London* in 1604, but the pledge was short-lived.

By the 1630s, buccaneers were active in the Caribbean. This disparate group was comprised of dispossessed Frenchmen who'd been driven off the island of Hispaniola, as well as various Dutch and English fortune hunters – former sailors, settlers and indentured servants. Basing themselves on the French island of Tortuga,



CHANGING ROOMS

To agree the terms of the *Treaty of London*, **18 negotiation sessions** were held at the English capital's Somerset House. The manor was given a makeover for the event – ensuring Spain saw Britain's best side – and it was decorated with lavish furnishings and fine tapestries.

PEACE TALKS
Delegates broker peace between Spain and England in 1604, discussing the Dutch, trading matters and the Inquisition

MARAUDING ENGLISH SEA DOGS MERCILESSLY HARASSED SPANISH SHIPS AND SETTLEMENTS

they began attacking Spanish ships in the Windward Passage in the Caribbean.

As this renegade force grew, the English, French and Dutch embraced them as a welcome thorn in Spain's side. Letters of marque were issued to buccaneers to semi-legitimise acts of piracy, and Sir Thomas Modyford – the English Governor of Jamaica – invited them to base their ships at Port Royal, in return for a slice of the Spanish loot. The Jamaican city became a pirate haven, where stolen treasure could be easily fenced.

During the Anglo-Spanish War (1654–60), Royal Navy officer Christopher Myngs, who was later knighted and made an admiral, commanded large buccaneer raiding parties. Even when hostilities finished, a policy of 'no peace beyond the line' was adopted,

where treaties signed in Europe were

ignored in the Caribbean, and letters of marque were granted regardless of the war-footing of the nations involved.

The buccaneers' exploits became ever bigger and bolder, with attacks on large towns and cities as well as ships. Infamous characters from this time include Jean-David Nau (aka François l'Olonnais), and fellow Frenchman Daniel Montbars, whose lethal reputation as a killer of Spaniards was such that he was known as 'the Exterminator'.

Another leading buccaneer was the infamous Welshman Henry Morgan, whose grand-scale exploits included the sacking of Panama City, and who was knighted by Charles II to spite the Spanish.

By the latter quarter of the 17th century, however, these highwaymen of the high seas had become a liability. Spain's power had waned, and they posed a threat to the increased commercial shipping of the powers that had previously supported them. The relationship between England and France had deteriorated, so collusion between English Jamaica and French Tortuga was faltering, and the buccaneers became the victims of their own

2,000

The number of people who died in the Port Royal earthquake of July 1692



THE SCOURGE OF SPAIN
François l'Olonnais was a French buccaneer known for his cruelty, and feared for his torture techniques

BLURRED LINES CUTTHROATS V SEA DOGS

The distinction between privateer and pirate during the Elizabethan and Stuart periods is blurry. Ostensibly, the difference was simple: pirates were common criminals, murderers and thieves, who acted alone and were universally despised, whereas privateers sailed on privately owned boats that could attack other ships, as long as they carried a 'letter of marque' – a government license allowing them to engage with vessels sailing under the flags of enemy nations.

Elizabeth, and later monarchs, supported and encouraged privateers who plundered Spanish ships and settlements. Indeed, many of them were knighted, and the monarchs shared in the profits – although much of this activity took place in peacetime, so its legality is highly questionable. The Spanish regarded men like Francis Drake, Walter Raleigh and, later, Christopher Myngs as nothing but state-sponsored pirates.

Throughout the period, the status of many captains and their crewmembers oscillated between privateer and pirate according to international affairs and the paperwork they carried.



KNIGHTLY PIRATE
Sir Christopher Myngs went from cabin boy to honoured privateer

success, with most settlements having been plundered to exhaustion.

After Port Royal was decimated by an earthquake and tolerance of their misdeeds elsewhere in the Caribbean ran out (along with the steady supply of letters of marque), most buccaneer gangs disbanded or joined pirate crews seeking spoils further afield, in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, on the so-called Pirate Round.



HUNTING GROUNDS

The pirates of the Caribbean were not afraid to travel for their treasure

Their normal hunting grounds of the Caribbean were closing in, and letters of marque were becoming harder to get. The buccaneers and privateers had to look beyond the Americas. It hadn't gone unnoticed that ships of the East India Company, laden with precious silks, calico and spices, were plying the Indian Ocean, travelling with little protection.

Englishman and former privateer Thomas Tew tested the waters in 1693. He led a successful foray around the Cape of Good Hope and up the East African coast to hit targets in the Red Sea. Tew's cruise set the course for the Pirate Round, a route that quickly became popular with English pirate captains – especially after Tew's contemporary, Henry Every, hit the jackpot by plundering the treasure-laden Mughal fleet.

The round started from whichever Atlantic port the pirates were based at – normally Nassau, New York or Bermuda – and saw them travel south-south east along the Atlantic coast of Africa, typically via the Madeira Islands, go around the Cape of Good Hope and through the Strait of Madagascar.

In northern Madagascar, at Île Sainte-Marie and Ranter Bay (and also on the nearby Comoros islands), pirate bases sprang up where provisions could be obtained and repairs made before raids were carried out further north.

The mouth of the Red Sea was a profitable hunting ground, with Mughal ships travelling between Surat and Mecca providing rich pickings. East Indiamen (boats packed with valuable goods) and Mughal

merchants were preyed upon along India's Malabar and Coromandel coasts. The pirates would return via the same route, sometimes veering east of Madagascar to look for stray East Indiamen around the small island of Réunion.

4.1

The amount, in tonnes, of gold and silver that sank in April 1717, when Samuel Bellamy's *Whydah Gally* went down in a storm off Cape Cod

The East India Company demanded action, and England attempted to police the Round with a pirate hunter called Captain Kidd. Soon, however, the route naturally fell from favour when the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-14)

opened up new, easier opportunities

for the pirates to exploit in the Bahamas.

The round was briefly explored again in 1719-21, at which time

one of the biggest hauls in pirate history was scored by Olivier Levasseur and John Taylor, when they captured the treasure-laden Portuguese East Indiaman, *Nossa Senhora Do Cabo*, at Réunion in 1721.

THE RED SEA WAS A PROFITABLE HUNTING GROUND

BLACK BART

REAL NAME: Bartholomew Roberts
BORN: 1682, in Casnewydd-Bach, Wales
DIED: 1722, during battle with Captain Chaloner Ogle
KNOWN FOR: Dressing up to the nines before combat
SHIP: *The Royal Fortune*

BIO: Roberts was pressed into piracy when captured by fellow Welshman, Captain Howell Davis. He soon developed a taste for it and became the most successful pirate of the Golden Age, in terms of ships captured.

He plied his trade along the coast of the Americas from Nova Scotia to Brazil. His death is considered by many to mark the end of the Golden Age of Piracy.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: Roberts captured over 470 ships in his three years as a pirate captain.

CAREER EARNINGS: (collated and converted into modern US\$ by *Forbes*): \$32 million

FEAR FACTOR: 7/10



BLACKBEARD

REAL NAME: Edward Teach
BORN: c1680, probably in Bristol, England
DIED: 1718, in battle with pirate hunter Lieutenant Robert Maynard
KNOWN FOR: Putting lit firecrackers in his beard and hair
SHIP: *Queen Anne's Revenge* (40 guns). Formerly *La Concorde*, a French slaving vessel

BIO: Probably the most famous real-life pirate ever, Teach preyed on shipping vessels in the West Indies and along the east coast of America.

He was Benjamin Hornigold's second-in-command and a key member of the Flying Gang before going out alone. Teach relied on his ferocious appearance and reputation rather than violence.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: In May 1718, as Commodore of a pirate flotilla, Teach blockaded the port of Charles Town (now Charleston) in South Carolina.

CAREER EARNINGS: (collated and converted into modern US\$ by *Forbes*): \$12.5 million

FEAR FACTOR: 10/10



CAPTAINS OF FEAR

These men were some of the most feared, but also the wealthiest in the world. Most lived short but adventure-filled lives.

BLACK SAM

REAL NAME: Samuel Bellamy
BORN: 1689, in Devon, England
DIED: 1717, drowned in a storm
KNOWN FOR: Carrying four duelling pistols in his sash
SHIP: *The Marianne* and later the *Whydah*

BIO: A former sailor in the Royal Navy, and an underling of Benjamin Hornigold, Bellamy became captain of the *Marianne* after Hornigold refused to attack English ships. His captaincy lasted barely a year, but in that time this expert strategist captured 53 ships. Generous and dapper, he was very popular, and likened to Robin Hood.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: The capture of the *Whydah Gally*, a state-of-the-art, 300-ton, 31-metre-long English slave ship with 18 guns, during the return leg of its maiden voyage. It was loaded with a fortune from the sale of nearly 500 slaves.

CAREER EARNINGS: (collated and converted into modern US\$ by *Forbes*): \$120 million

FEAR FACTOR: 6/10



THE ARCH PIRATE

REAL NAME:

Henry Every
BORN: 1659,
somewhere near
Plymouth, England

DIED: Every
disappeared in 1696,
final fate unknown

KNOWN FOR:

Disappearing with his
treasure (and life) intact

SHIP: *The Fancy*

BIO: A former sailor and slave trader, Every turned to piracy when he mutinied on the *Charles II* in 1694. He was elected captain of the ship, which was renamed *The Fancy*.

In a short career, he focussed on the Indian Ocean, before hitting the jackpot with a successful attack on the Grand Mughal's treasure-laden flagship.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: Plundering the *Ganj-i-sawai*, which made him the richest pirate in the world.

CAREER EARNINGS: The haul from the *Ganj-i-sawai* was between £325,000 and £600,000, estimated by historian Jan Rogoziński to equate to between US\$200-400 million in today's money.

FEAR FACTOR: 6/10



SKULL AND CUTLASS

Although the **Jolly Roger** is the flag now associated with all pirates, it originally belonged to *The Revenge*, and most captains flew a flag of their own design.

LA BUSE (THE BUZZARD)

REAL NAME:

Olivier Levasseur

BORN: 1688 or 1690,
in Calais, France

DIED: 7 July 1730,
hanged for piracy at
Saint-Denis, Réunion

KNOWN FOR:

Sporting an eye patch

SHIP: *Le Victorieux*

BIO: After a career as a French privateer, Levasseur joined Benjamin Hornigold's company before leaving to exploit the Pirate Round. He worked with fellow pirates Edward England and John Taylor – with the latter, he perpetrated one of history's biggest pirate heists...

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: The capture of the Portuguese galleon *Nossa Senhora do Cabo*, which belonged to the Bishop of Goa and the Viceroy of Portugal.

CAREER EARNINGS: The total haul from the *Cabo* was £875,000, estimated by historian Jan Rogoziński to be worth some US\$400 million today. Levasseur took at least £50,000 gold guineas (roughly £7.5 million), 42 diamonds and other treasures.

FEAR FACTOR: 8/10



CALICO JACK

REAL NAME:

John Rackham

BORN: Circa 1682,
somewhere in England

DIED: 18 November
1720, hanged for piracy
in Port Royal, Jamaica

KNOWN FOR:

Designing the Jolly
Roger and rolling with
two infamous female
pirates of the age

SHIP: *The Revenge*

BIO: The former quartermaster to the pirate Charles Vane, Rackham deposed his captain after calling him a coward for retreating from a French man-o-war.

Rackham enjoyed modest success, hunting mostly around the coast of Jamaica. His reputation has been enhanced by his association with two ruthless female pirates – Anne Bonny and Mary Read (see page 36).

CAREER HIGHLIGHT: Capture of the richly laden merchant ship the *Kingston* (which he lost again two months later).

CAREER EARNINGS: (collated and converted into modern US\$ by *Forbes*) \$1.6 million.

FEAR FACTOR: 6/10



'X' MARKS THE SPOT HIDDEN BOOTY

Part of the enduring fascination with this age of piracy is the bewitching idea that, buried deep on a Caribbean beach or concealed at the back of a cave, a forgotten haul of ill-gotten treasure lies hidden.

The only pirate known for certain to have buried his loot was Captain Kidd, who stashed a small cache of treasure in Cherry Tree Field on Gardiners Island, New York. This was discovered and used as evidence against him, but it's thought Kidd squirrelled away more jewels.

The buccaneer Daniel Montbars is also rumoured to have buried his fortune, but perhaps the most intriguing story belongs to fellow Frenchman Olivier Levasseur. The story goes that, as he stood on the scaffold about to be hanged, the condemned pirate untied his necklace, which contained a 17-line cryptogram, and threw it into the crowd, exclaiming: "Find my treasure, the one who may understand it!"

THE PIRATE ROUND

The richest prizes were found in the East



A BLOT ON THE SEASCAPE

Pirates were a **permanent feature** on the world's oceans. So much so that this engraving, of a crew dividing up their booty, was even included in French cartographer Nicolas de Fer's American map of 1705.

Charles Town

Florida

Havana

Nassau

THE BAHAMAS

Cuba

Samaná Bay

Hispaniola

Puerto Rico

Jamaica

CARIBBEAN SEA

GULF OF HONDURAS

Honduras





YO HO! A PIRATE'S LIFE

The career that promised freedom, fame and fortune was as high risk as it was high reward

While pirate ships were uncomfortable and the lifestyle was fraught with danger, in many ways, it was a more attractive than an almost equally tough existence in the merchant or Royal navies. It was certainly more democratic and less regimented. What's more, alongside the ever-present threat of harm, was the possibility of a payload beyond the wildest dreams of most sailors.

When merchant-ship officer Bartholomew Roberts was captured by pirate captain Howell Davis, the captor pointed out to his fellow Welshman that the most he could expect to be paid in the navy was about £3 per month, while, as a pirate, his earning capability was limitless. The man who would become known as 'Black Bart' saw the logic in this, signed up and took over as captain within six weeks (when Davis was killed). He went on to

become one of the most successful pirates of the age. On the downside, he was dead in two years.

Pirate crews were recruited in a variety of ways – some were former sailors and privateers who drifted into piracy, others were pressed into service when captured by pirates. However they came aboard, new crewmembers were expected (sometimes forced) to sign a pirate code or set of articles, which established the rules of the ship.

23

The weight, in kilos, of gold dust that 'Black Bart' plundered from just one ship in the Bight of Africa

'NO PREY, NO PAY'

Theirs was a life based on risk versus reward. Except for the unusual circumstances on Stede Bonnet's ship, where the crew was paid a wage, all earnings came from the proceeds of their actions. This policy of 'no prey, no pay' kept motivation high, and if captains shied from a fight, they quickly became unpopular.

New leaders would be elected when an incumbent captain was killed or, as was quite common, the crew moved against them. Jack Rackham accused his captain Charles Vane of

cowardice when he refused to go into battle with an armed French ship, and was installed as captain himself when the crew backed him. When another pirate, Captain Benjamin Hornigold – who mentored a whole generation of pirates – refused to attack any English ships, he was deposed by his crew and replaced by Samuel Bellamy. Captains, once relieved of their command, were usually either marooned or given control of a lesser vessel.

With such a fluid hierarchical system (and a high death rate), the chances of promotion were good. If you could prove yourself as a competent navigator, tactician, motivator or leader, you could easily ascend to a key position, such as the quartermaster (regarded as second-in-command) or even the captaincy.

Attacking other ships and settlements obviously carried with it the risk of meeting a violent end but, when successful, the whole crew reaped a share of the plundered rewards. When Olivier Levasseur and John Taylor hit the treasure-packed *Nossa Senhora do Cabo*, every pirate involved in the

SUNKEN TREASURES PAYDAY V EVERYDAY

Although a pirate's most valued possessions may have been his – or her – sparkling treasure, many of their everyday items reveal just as much, if not more, about the lives of these rogue sailors...



PIRATE POSSESSIONS

- 1: Treasure of gold hauled up from Black Sam's sunken *Whydah Gally*
- 2: Gold dust, found on Blackbeard's *Queen Anne's Revenge* wreck
- 3: Nesting weights – from Blackbeard's ship – used to count treasure
- 4: Pirates didn't only drink rum, as a teapot from the *Whydah* proves
- 5: A pestle and mortar, from Blackbeard's ship, for grinding medicines
- 6: A surviving pirate boot from Black Sam's sloop

PHILLIPS' HEAD

Captain John Phillips, the English carpenter-turned-pirate who wrote this code, met a grisly end. In 1724, one of his captives **plunged an axe** into Phillips' skull. His head was then cut off, pickled and displayed on the ship's masthead.

LAW & ORDER

THE PIRATE CODE

From the early days of buccaneering, ships' captains drew up a set of articles – a pirate code – that established the rules and principles the crew were expected to live by, and detailed punishments they could expect if they failed to uphold them. Recruits would sign the code and swear to abide by it, and those pressed into service (typically people with valuable skills, such as carpenters and navigators) were often forced to sign.

Details varied from ship to ship, but once they'd become a signed-up member of the crew, men could expect a share of any plundered treasure and could take part in the decision-making process, which was far more democratic than most societies. Penned a century before the French Revolution, the codes enshrined advanced concepts of liberty and equality.

Many proscribed activities such as gambling and some made provisions for the treatment of captives and injured comrades. Articles drawn up by Captain John Phillips, for example, forbade rape on pain of death (see right).

Signed codes were used as evidence for the prosecution if a man was accused of piracy, so many were destroyed.

HONOURABLE CODE

This list, written by Captain John Phillips in 1724, is notable for forbidding the crew from committing rape

Capt. JOHN PHILLIPS.

2. If any Man shall offer to run away, or keep any Secret from the Company, he shall be marroon'd, with one Bottle of Powder, one Bottle of Water, one small Arm, and Shot.

3. If any Man shall steal any Thing in the Company, or game, to the Value of a Piece of Eight, he shall be marroon'd or shot.

4. If at any Time we should meet another Marrooner [that is, Pirate,] that Man that shall sign his Articles without the Consent of our Company, shall suffer such Punishment as the Captain and Company shall think fit.

5. That Man that shall strike another whilst these Articles are in force, shall receive Moses's Law (that is, 40 Stripes lacking one) on the bare Back.

6. That Man that shall snip his Arms, or smook Tobacco in the Hold, without a Cap to his Pipe, or carry a Candle lighted without a Lanthorn, shall suffer the same Punishment as in the former Article.

7. That Man that shall not keep his Arms clean, fit for an Engagement, or neglect his Business, shall be cut off from his Share, and suffer such other Punishment as the Captain and the Company shall think fit.

8. If any Man shall lose a Joint in time of an Engagement, shall have 400 Pieces of Eight; if a Limb, 800.

9. If at any time you meet with a prudent Woman, that Man that offers to meddle with her, without her Consent, shall suffer present Death.

Thus prepar'd, this bold Crew set out, and before they left the Banks they made Prize of several small Fishing-Vessels, out of which they got a few Hands, some



BARBARIC BUCCANEER

L'Olonnais rips out the heart of a prisoner, thrusting it in the face of another

DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES

CRUEL SEAS

For pirate captains, reputation was everything. The more fear they could spread, the less actual fighting they would have to do, and the longer they might live. Blackbeard was a true master at this – he created an appearance so terrifying that most victims simply surrendered, but in reality he was more benign than most.

Other captains had a well-earned name for wanton cruelty. The French buccaneer Daniel Montbars was reputed to torture surviving Spanish soldiers on the ships he attacked. One particularly gory story tells that he cut open the stomach of one his prisoners, extracted one end of the large intestine, nailed it to a post, and then forced the poor man to “dance to his death by beating his backside with a burning log”.

Fellow Frenchman François l'Olonnais was another accomplished torturer. He was known to use a technique called ‘woolding’, where he would tighten a knotted rope around the victim's head until their eyes popped out. He was also reported to have cut men's hearts out of their bodies while they were still alive, and sink his teeth into them before their eyes.

Later in the period, English pirate Edward Low became reviled as a sadistic psychopath. In one incident, when the captain of a Portuguese ship dropped a bag of money overboard rather than allow it to be

captured, Low cut off his lips, broiled them and made the man eat them. Low's actions became so horrific that his own crew called him “a maniac and a brute”, and some refused to carry out his orders.

MEN WERE BLOWN APART BY CANNONBALLS AND HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT WAS SAVAGE

attack received £50,000 golden Guineas and 42 diamonds – an absolute fortune, worth millions in today's money.

BLOODY BUSINESS

However, when fighting took place, it was brutal. Men were blown apart by cannonballs from afar and hand-to-hand combat on the decks of the boats they boarded was a savage, hacking, bloody business. Life expectancy often depended on the tactics of the captain leading the charge. Blackbeard, for example, cultivated such a fearsome image that the boats he attacked often surrendered with barely a struggle – which suited his men just fine.

This world was populated by rough, tough men, and just a few hardy women. Heavy drinking sessions were regular occurrences and disputes on board would often be settled with deadly duels.

As a result of their violent lifestyle, body parts were quite commonly lost and some pirates did indeed sport eye patches, peg legs, hooks and other such improvised prosthetics fashioned from materials at hand. Pirate boats didn't usually boast a surgeon, however, and operations, amputations and dentistry would normally be carried out by the ship's carpenter or cook. Pirate codes often provided

compensation for disabled comrades, and made provision for them to stay on board, even if their usefulness in combat had ended.

Other popular images of piracy have some basis in truth. Large, gold, hooped earrings were often worn, partly because it was believed that the pressure they applied to the earlobes helped prevent seasickness, but also because wearing jewellery was a handy way of keeping some of your wealth close.

Many pirates had long hair – Samuel ‘Black Sam’ Bellamy earned his nickname from his free-flowing jet-black hair, not the darkness of his heart (on the contrary, he was a well-loved character) – but most dressed in comfortable, easy-fitting attire, rather than the rags they're often depicted in. Several pirate captains, including Bellamy, Bartholomew Roberts and ‘Calico’ Jack Rackham were even renowned for dressing with flamboyant pizzazz.

LOOKING THE PART

William Kidd wore gold earrings and long black hair





IN THE NAME OF THE LAW

England had long condoned piracy against its enemies, but the tides were turning...

During the late-17th century, the English authorities changed their attitude towards pirates. The sea-scourging savages had begun to threaten England's interests, not just their enemies'. And so began the age of the pirate hunter.

Unfortunately, the hunters chosen were, typically, former pirates, and their unpaid crews had to extract their rewards from the ships they were chasing. Unsurprisingly, this didn't always end well.

In 1695, Captain William Kidd, a Scottish privateer, was sent to track down the likes of Thomas Tew and Henry Every on the Pirate Round. These menaces had stepped too far, having infuriated the influential East India Company.

Armed with a new ship, the *Adventure Galley*, Kidd went off to seek French ships as well as pirates. But, having failed to find any pirate ships in the Indian Ocean, and with his crew close to mutiny, Kidd plundered the 400-ton *Quedagh Merchant*, a richly laden Armenian ship sailing with French paperwork, but captained by a Brit.

Kidd fretted (correctly) that this would see him condemned as a pirate, but he was no longer in control of his crew, most of which deserted when they reached Madagascar. Kidd was later lured into a trap in Boston, where he was arrested, sent back to England and – in an act that remains controversial – hanged.

Later, attempts to restore order to the pirate-infested Bahamas – led by the sea captain and Governor Woodes Rogers – were more successful. In 1718, a royal pardon was offered to all pirates who agreed to surrender. Rogers then employed several of these ex-pirates, including the legendary Captain Benjamin Hornigold, to hunt down those who remained outside the law.

The infamous Pirates' Republic of Nassau was subsequently shut down.

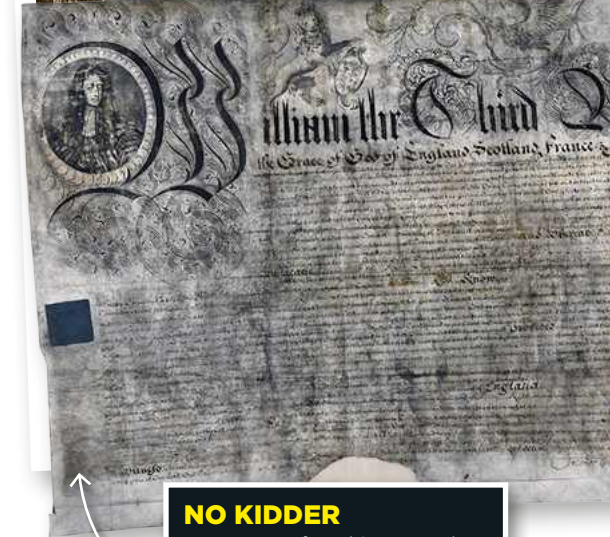
Nicholas Lawes, Governor of Jamaica, also got a result when he sent Captain Jonathan Barnet to bring in 'Calico' Jack Rackham, who had been harassing ships all around the island. Barnet cornered the partying pirate in October 1720, arrested his entire crew, including Anne Bonny and Mary Read, and brought them to justice.

1,000

The number of pirates living in Nassau at the height of the republic's strength, according to the British Governor of Bermuda



BOOTY STORE
Kidd sits back as his men bury their loot – but did he intend to become a pirate?



NO KIDDER

Two years after this December 1695 **letter of marque** granted privateer Captain Kidd permission to **hunt pirates**, he turned to piracy himself. It's not clear if that was always his aim, but he certainly became a feared man very quickly.

SEA-DOG SANCTUARY

THE PIRATES' REPUBLIC OF NASSAU AND THE FLYING GANG



PARADISE FOUND
The pirates set up home on the idyllic island of New Providence in the Bahamas

Pirate power reached its zenith in the first two decades of the 18th century, with the brazen establishment of the Pirates' Republic of Nassau on New Providence Island in the Bahamas.

Already a favourite harbour for the pirate Henry Every, who had the governor in his pocket, the British settlement of Nassau suffered attacks by Franco-Spanish fleets during the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-14), and was left abandoned by authorities.

In 1706, a loose-knit gang of English privateers slid into this vacuum and built a base from where they could

legitimately prey on Spanish and French ships in the region. When Britain withdrew from the war in 1713, these activities were suddenly illegal, but most captains carried on regardless, effectively becoming pirates.

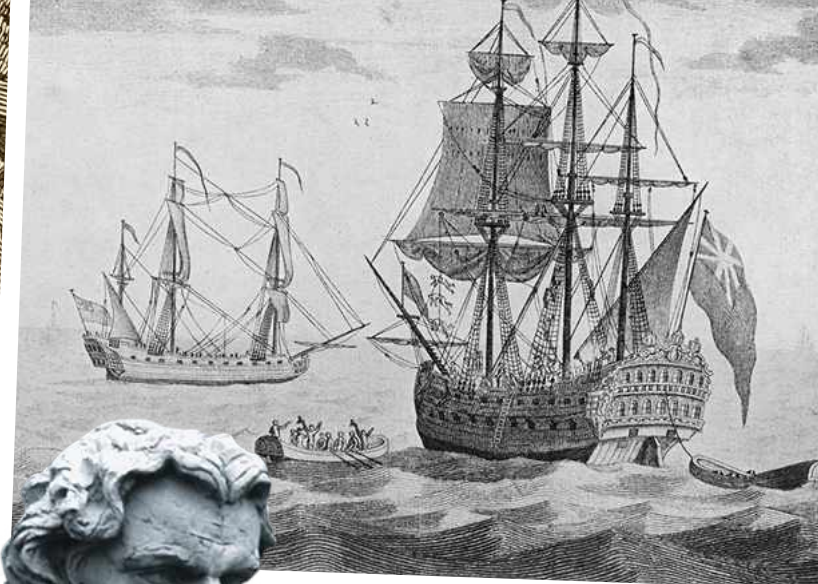
At the republic's height, Nassau was a thriving hub of piratical activity, but the two biggest names in town were those of captains Benjamin Hornigold and Henry Jennings. A rivalry existed between the two men, but against the rest of the world they formed an uneasy alliance.

Operating under these senior captains was a list of characters that now reads like a who's who of piracy, including Edward 'Blackbeard' Teach, 'Black' Sam Bellamy, Stede Bonnet, Charles Vane, 'Calico'



LITERARY HERO

In his privateering days, Woodes Rogers (who would go on to become Governor of the Bahamas) rescued a Scottish sailor named **Alexander Selkirk** from a remote Pacific island in 1709. The rescued Scot's adventures later became the inspiration for Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*.



MASTER OF THE SEAS

ABOVE: *The Duke* and *The Duchess*, the two frigates that Woodes Rogers (left) sailed the world with, before he became Governor of the Bahamas

“THE SEA-SCOURGING SAVAGES HAD BEGUN TO THREATEN ENGLAND’S INTERESTS”

DEATH-DEFYING DROP

Standing on the gallows, noose around his neck, Captain Kidd may well have still been **hoping for a pardon**, as so many of his condemned comrades had received. Then, as he dropped, his **rope snapped**, and he fell to the ground – alive but dazed. He quite possibly thought that salvation had come. Quickly, though, he was re-hanged.

WALK THE PLANK ROUGH JUSTICE

When cornered, many notable pirate captains – Blackbeard and Black Bart included – went down fighting. Those who allowed themselves to be caught, however, such as ‘Calico’ Jack Rackham, were brought to trial, along with their crew. If convicted of piracy, they were hanged. In England, pirates were hanged with a shorter rope than usual, which resulted in a slow death from strangulation, as the drop wasn’t big enough to break the prisoner’s neck. This was known as the Marshal’s dance, because their limbs would often ‘dance’ as they slowly asphyxiated. For pirate captains, judges would also regularly impose the common-law punishment of gibbeting, where the body of the offender would be publicly displayed in a structure next to a waterway, as a deterrent to others. Rackham was gibbeted on a tiny island at the entrance to Port Royal in Jamaica, now known as Rackham’s Cay, and Captain William Kidd’s corpse was gibbeted over the River Thames at Tilbury Point, Essex, for three years.

ON DISPLAY

Captain Kidd was hanged on 23 May 1701 in front of a keen crowd, before he was relocated to a gibbet at Tilbury Point



Jack Rackham and Olivier Levasseur. Collectively they were known as the Flying Gang, and their dastardly deeds would come to define the Golden Age of Piracy.

Life in the Pirates’ Republic was dictated by the Pirates’ Code. Jennings was the Commodore and Blackbeard was voted in as ‘Magistrate’, in charge of law enforcement.

Cracks appeared when the pirates disagreed about the wisdom of plundering English ships, something that had been previously avoided. Hornigold was deeply opposed to the idea, but he was overthrown by his crew and later turned pirate hunter.

With Britain’s interests now under attack, in 1718 Woodes Rogers was installed as Governor of the Bahamas and tasked with breaking up the Pirate Republic and restoring law. Within four years, the main members of the Flying Gang, bar Jennings, were dead.



QUEENS OF THE SEA

A few females thrived in this testosterone-fuelled age, but two were especially notorious

Anne Bonny and Mary Read – the only two women to be convicted of piracy – were shipmates, both sailing with ‘Calico’ Jack Rackham. Arguably, Rackham owes his reputation to the two women. Bonny was in a long-term relationship with Rackham, but both she and Read were ferocious fighters who outshone their captain in the pirate gang’s last act.

Bonny was born Anne Cormac, in County Cork, Ireland, in 1697, the product of an affair between a lawyer and a servant girl. When the lawyer’s wife made his infidelity public, he emigrated to America with his mistress and child. Later, he disowned Anne, a feisty redhead, after she married James Bonny, a sailor and bit-part pirate.

By 1718, the Bonnys were living in Nassau in the Bahamas, a pirate haven. The purple period of the famed Pirates’ Republic was about to end, however, with the arrival of Governor Woodes Rogers, who’d been tasked with restoring order to the anarchic enclave. It’s believed that James Bonny became an informer for Rogers.

Anne, meanwhile, had met and become romantically entwined with Rackham. It’s thought the piratical pair had a child, born (and possibly left) in Cuba. The couple stole their ship – *The Revenge* – when it was at harbour in Nassau, set out to sea and recruited a crew

of pirates, including one particularly fine-featured Mark Read.

LIFE IN DISGUISE

Unbeknown to anyone, ‘Mark’ was, in fact, Mary. She was masquerading as a man – something she was highly adept at doing, having been at it for much of her life.

Mary Read was born around 1691. Her mother, who had the child out of wedlock long after the death of her husband, disguised the young girl as her older half-brother, Mark, who had died in childhood, in order to get financial support from the dead boy’s paternal grandmother.

Read kept up the pretence and began her life at sea as a footboy. She joined the military – as a man – and saw action against the French.

During this time she met and married a Flemish soldier. They settled in the Netherlands, but when her husband died, Mary put her trousers back on.

Seeking a new life, Read sailed to the West Indies, but her ship was boarded by pirates who, thinking her a man, pressed her into service. After receiving the King’s pardon sometime around 1718, she began life as a privateer, but she soon crossed the blurry line into piracy again, and in 1720 she joined *The Revenge*.

Bonny had left her husband and settled with Rackham by now and, unlike Read, lived openly as a woman. Read kept up her disguise until Bonny apparently became attracted to her. It



INFAMOUS THREE
Bonny, Read and ‘Calico’ Jack
make camp in the Antilles

wasn’t long before Bonny learned her secret, and the two women became close. This aroused the suspicions of the captain, who threatened Read in a jealous rage. Her true identity revealed, Rackham relented and permitted both women to remain on board.

LOVE AND DEATH

The Revenge successfully plundered a number of ships around Jamaica, with both women holding their own in combat and earning the respect of fellow shipmates. During one attack, several prisoners were taken. Read fell for one of them, who eventually returned her affections. Allegedly, when her lover was challenged to a duel by another pirate, Read secretly arranged for another, earlier, duel to take place, during which she killed her man’s would-be assailant.

The reign of *The Revenge* came to a violent end in October 1720, when the sloop was discovered by pirate hunter Captain Jonathan Barnet. Rackham and his crew were in the midst of a rum party, with most of them drunk or asleep at the time of the attack, and only Read and Bonny put up a fight. Read is said to have shot dead some of her own crew in disgust.

When Barnet finally overcame the women’s spirited last stand, the entire crew was arrested and taken to Spanish Town, Jamaica, where they were sentenced to be hanged. Both Bonny and Read “pleaded their bellies”, claiming to be pregnant, and received a stay of execution.

According to legend, when she saw her husband in chains, Bonny’s last words to him were: “Sorry to see you there, but if you’d fought like a man, you would not have been hang’d like a Dog.”

Read is believed to have died in prison, possibly during childbirth, while Bonny’s fate

is cast in mystery. In the absence of any definitive records of her release or execution, rumours persist that she was bailed out by her father, that she returned to her ex-husband, or somehow escaped to resume a life on the high seas.

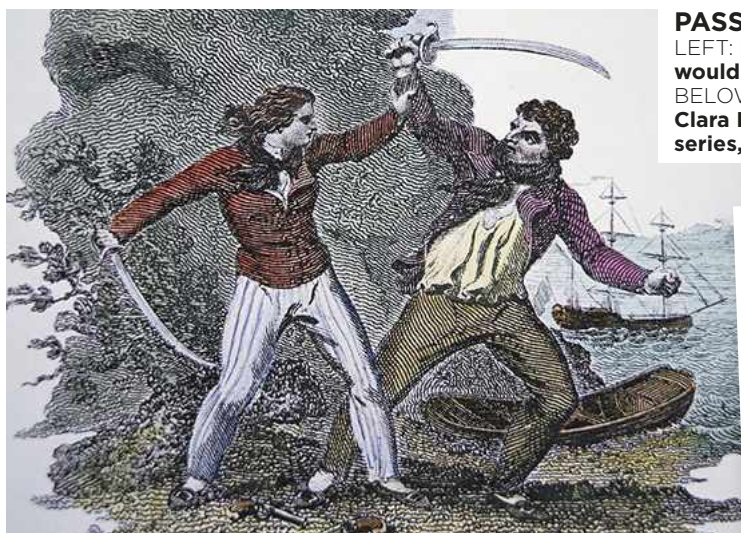
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The number of men from *The Revenge*’s crew who did not escape the noose

PASSIONATE PIRATES

LEFT: Read fights the pirate who would kill her lover

BELOW: Bonny, as depicted by Clara Paget in the hit US TV series, *Black Sails*



NAME AND SHAME

'Calico' Jack could have earned his moniker in one of two ways. Either because he was a **textile smuggler** in the early 1700s, or because he often made **flashy and colourful** fashion choices.

BONNY LASS

Various reported as a rebel, seductress, lesbian and drunk, one thing's for sure – Anne Bonny was skillful pirate

OPENING GAMBIT

Bonny was as smart as she was ruthless. One of her earliest pirate tricks involved maiming a mannequin and covering it in **fake blood**. Then, when a merchant ship passed by, she **raised her axe** over the 'corpse'. The sailors quickly surrendered.

"SORRY TO SEE YOU THERE, BUT IF YOU'D FOUGHT LIKE A MAN, YOU WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN HANG'D LIKE A DOG."

Anne Bonny to her pirate husband



MRS CHING

Ching Shih – the formidable pirate widow of 19th-century China

FEMALE COMPANY LADIES OF THE HIGH SEAS

Although women were commonly believed to bring bad luck on a ship, Bonny and Read were far from the only females to seize a cutlass and take to the waves to seek treasure and adventure on the dark side of the law. History tells of many women pirates, from Gráinne O'Malley, an Irish pirate queen in the 16th century, to Ching Shih, a one-time Chinese prostitute, who rose to command a vast pirate armada of up to 1,800 ships and 80,000 men in the 19th century.

One famous tale involving a female pirate captain tells of Englishwoman Charlotte de Berry, who followed her husband to sea disguised as a man in the mid 1600s. After avenging her husband's death at the hands of a jealous officer who'd discovered her identity, de Berry jumped ship. Later press ganged and forced into marriage by a violent merchant, de Berry led a mutiny and turned pirate captain.

Anne Dieu-Le-Veut, from France, entered the pirate life after marrying the famous buccaneer Laurens de Graaf (having initially challenged him to a duel to avenge the death of her first husband). Another female buccaneer was Jacquotte Delahaye, daughter of a French father and a Haitian mother. She turned to piracy after the murder of her father, and rose to lead a large gang of men based on a small Caribbean Island.



TIMELINE The Golden Age

Through triumphs, treasure and treachery, follow the high and low tides of

1604

By signing the Treaty of London, James I of England and VI of Scotland agrees to end English privateering in the Americas.



1630s

Buccaneers – a motley band of French, Dutch, English and Welsh seafaring desperados – become active in the Caribbean, harassing Spanish shipping from French Tortuga.

1654-60

Throughout the Anglo-Spanish War, the Royal Navy provides leadership to the buccaneers as they attack Spanish settlements.

England beats Spain in the Battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, 1657



1655

England captures Jamaica from Spain. The Governor invites buccaneers engaged in attacking Spanish shipping to use Port Royal as a base.

1671

Welsh buccaneer Henry Morgan sacks Panama City with 1,400 men.



After the Panama attack, Morgan deserts his troops and keeps most of the booty for himself

MAY 1718

Blackbeard blockades the port of Charles Town (now Charleston) in South Carolina, but is pardoned by Governor Eden in North Carolina just one month later.



18th-century map of Charles Town

5 JANUARY 1718

A proclamation is issued offering a royal pardon to pirates who agree to surrender to British authorities by 5 September. Three months later, English sea captain Woodes Rogers sails down the Thames, bound for the Bahamas, to break up the Pirate Republic, restore law and bring resisting pirates to heel.

NOVEMBER 1717

Edward 'Blackbeard' Teach captures a large, French, slave-trading vessel. He renames it the *Queen Anne's Revenge*.



26 APRIL 1717

The *Whydah Gally* sinks in a storm off of Cape Cod, taking its captain, 'Black Sam' Bellamy and tonnes of plundered treasure down to Davy Jones' Locker.



22 NOVEMBER 1718

Blackbeard is killed in a bloody fight with Lieutenant Robert Maynard.



10 DECEMBER 1718

English captain Stede Bonnet, or the 'Gentleman Pirate', is hanged in Charles Town.

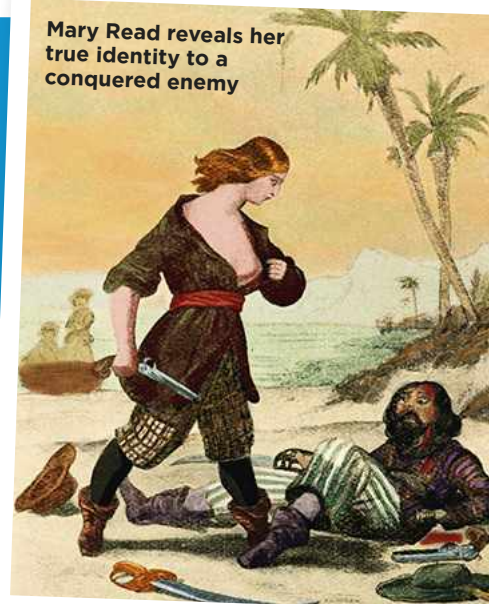
1719

Sailor Bartholomew Roberts is captured by pirates and joins the ranks. 'Black Bart' becomes the most successful pirate of his age.

OCTOBER 1720

'Calico' Jack Rackham is caught by surprise in Jamaica by pirate hunter Jonathan Barnett. With many of the men drunk, only his lover Anne Bonny and female crewmember Mary Read put up a fight.

Mary Read reveals her true identity to a conquered enemy



of Piracy

this swashbuckling era



7 JUNE 1692

A huge earthquake devastates the buccaneer haven of Port Royal in Jamaica, killing thousands. Much of the city sinks, and a tsunami strikes the town.

1693

Thomas Tew pioneers the Pirate Round, sailing around the Cape of Good Hope to go plundering in the Red Sea.



1 DECEMBER 1695

Captain William Kidd is commissioned to hunt down pirates operating in the Indian Ocean and threatening the merchant vessels of the influential East India Company.

AUGUST 1695

Henry Every hits the jackpot on the Pirate Round by capturing the treasure-laden Grand Mughal flagship, *Ganj-i-sawai*. Tew is killed in the chase.



The Pirates of Nassau Museum in the old buccaneer stronghold

1701

The War of the Spanish Succession (1701-14) erupts. Europe becomes divided, and English pirates begin to legally attack and plunder ships sailing under enemy flags.



30 JANUARY 1698

Captain Kidd plunders the *Quedagh Merchant*, which is sailing with French papers but under an English captain. Three years later, Kidd is hanged for piracy at Execution Dock in London.

1713

Britain withdraws from the Spanish war, leading to an increase in piracy around the Caribbean, Bahamas and along the American Atlantic coast.

1706

The Pirates' Republic established on New Providence island in the Bahamas.



18 NOVEMBER 1720

'Calico' Jack Rackham is hanged for piracy in Port Royal, Jamaica.

29 MARCH 1721

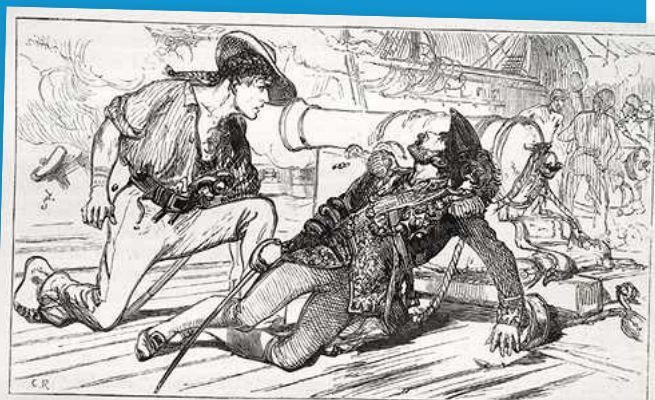
The unrepentant English pirate Charles Vane is hanged at Gallows Point in Port Royal.

1721

John Taylor and Olivier Levasseur score the greatest single prize in the history of the Pirate Round, with the raid of the Portuguese East Indiaman *Nossa Senhora Do Cabo* off Réunion island.

10 FEBRUARY 1722

Bartholomew 'Black Bart' Roberts is killed in battle with English captain, Chaloner Ogle, signalling the end of the Golden Age of Piracy.



DEATH OF "CAPTAIN" ROBERTS.

HMS VICTORY

THE UNTOLD STORY 14 FEB - 31 MAY 2015

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM



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In partnership with the National Maritime Museum and National Museum of the Royal Navy

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Winston Churchill celebrated in stamps.

Politician, celebrated speaker, painter and respected author, few would argue that Churchill enjoyed a most interesting life.

From his birth at Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire on November 30th, 1874, to his death 50 years ago on January 24, 1965, his life was one of action, controversy, setback and achievement.

During the Second World War the Channel Islands were the only part of the British Isles to be invaded and occupied by German forces. Then, after five long years, on 8 May 1945 at 10 o'clock, the people of Guernsey were informed by the German authorities that the war was over. Churchill made a radio broadcast at 3pm and announced that:

'Hostilities will end officially at one minute after midnight tonight (Tuesday, May 8)... and our dear Channel Islands are also to be freed today.'

The miniature sheet (above left) is a wonderful way to collect and keep a memento on one of the greatest wartime leaders of the 20th century.

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BITTER BATTLE

A ferocious pirate to the end, Blackbeard fights his assailants to the death

THE BIG STORY
THE GOLDEN
AGE OF PIRACY



FEAR FACTOR

Blackbeard knew **how to terrify** like no other. Even his emblem struck fear into its beholders. The image of a skeleton **spearing a heart** flew on a flag above his ship, stupefying sailors and merchants for miles around.



EDWARD TEACH: BLACKBEARD

Meet the pirate who earned a centuries-spanning reputation as the most dastardly sea-devil of them all, but who may have been one of the kindest – or rather, less villainous...

ART ARCHIVE



There is one name that invokes the spirit of the Golden Age of Piracy above all others: Blackbeard. Rightly or wrongly, this man is remembered as the most notorious villain of his era – and a usual suspect in a line-up of the most famous criminals of all time – a reputation fuelled by the fact that he used to set his own facial hair on fire to appear demonic. He has been variously painted as a ferocious thug, a pirate king and a gentleman in wolf's clothing – but what do we really know about Edward Teach, the man behind the smoking beard?

Considering the size of Blackbeard's legacy, surprisingly little is known about the vast majority of Edward Teach's existence. His reputation as the ultimate pirate – an image that has stood strong for three centuries – is built squarely on a frenetic period of activity that took place in the last two years of his life.

It is believed that Teach (whose real name may have been Thatch) was born in Bristol sometime around 1680. Bristol is a city with deep maritime roots, and at some point the young man apparently took to the waves and sailed to the Americas – possibly on a merchant slave-trading ship.

It's probable that he saw action as a privateer or combatant in Queen Anne's War – the North American front of the Spanish War of Succession, a complicated conflict that divided Europe from 1701–14. Teach likely then fell in with the pirate crowd around Jamaica and the Bahamas after Britain pulled out of the war, but what is known for sure is that, by 1716, he was mingling with career pirates on the island of New Providence.

Teach first comes to light in written records in 1717, when he's reported as working as a lieutenant to his compatriot Captain Benjamin Hornigold, a former privateer who'd been involved in piracy since 1713 and was a big noise in the Pirate Republic of Nassau, where Teach was now living.

In 1717, after he'd captured a 30-gun ship he renamed *The Ranger*, Hornigold placed Teach in command of his original sloop and the two boats set sail for the American mainland. En route, a further three ships – all merchant

Up until this point, Hornigold had steadfastly refused to attack British ships – possibly out of a sense of patriotism or, more likely, because it would eliminate his last shred of defence against accusations of piracy. However, these scruples were not held by his crew, most of whom just wanted a slice of whatever loot they could lay their hands on. After a vote – taken while Teach was elsewhere – Hornigold was replaced as captain by Samuel 'Black Sam' Bellamy, and shortly afterwards Hornigold sailed off in *The Ranger* to accept the Kings' pardon. Later, Hornigold turned pirate-hunter, but he and Teach never met again.

In November 1717, off the coast of St Vincent, Teach attacked and captured a large French slave ship, *La Concorde de Nantes*, which he renamed *Queen Anne's Revenge* (see page 44). His new flagship was equipped

with 40 guns. Teach now had three ships and presided over 150 men.

TEACH PULLED OFF HIS MOST AUDACIOUS STUNT TO DATE, BLOCKADING THE PORT OF CHARLES TOWN

vessels laden with wine and food – were successfully ransacked.

Around this time, Teach encountered the so-called 'Gentleman Pirate', Stede Bonnet – an eccentric Barbadian from a well-heeled background, whose chief motive for entering into piracy appears to have been to get away from his nagging wife. Bonnet, who had no knowledge of the sea or ship culture, was paying his crew wages – unheard of in pirate circles, where everyone from the captain down typically reaped their rewards from treasures plundered.

For all these reasons, Bonnet commanded little respect from his men, and at the time of meeting Teach he was seriously injured after a skirmish with a Spanish man-o-war. At the crew's request, and with Bonnet's approval, Teach took command of his ship, *The Revenge*. Bonnet remained on board, but as a background figure.

THE POWER OF IMAGE

Over the next few months, Teach, with Bonnet still on board, attacked and plundered multiple targets around the Caribbean and the Atlantic coast of America, adding several new boats to his expanding flotilla and cultivating a ferocious reputation. Much of this was an illusion, however. Teach was an intelligent man who fully realised the power of image over brute force.

Henry Bostock, captain of a boat that Teach ransacked around this time, recounts the pirate as "a tall spare man with a very black beard which he wore very long". This appears to have been the source of his simple but effectively menacing *nom de guerre*, Blackbeard.

The really evocative depictions of Teach, complete with lit fuses under his hat and in his beard, come from the book *A General History of the Robberies and Murders of the Most Notorious Pyrates*, published in 1724 and written by a mysterious Captain Charles Johnson. The book describes

Teach as "Such a figure that imagination cannot form an idea of a fury from hell to look more frightful."

Yet, for all his demonic bluster, most eye-witness accounts of Teach paint a picture of a man who honoured his word when dealing with hostages, and never resorted to wanton indiscriminate violence. This is in sharp contrast to some of his contemporaries, such as Edward Low, who was known for torture, sometimes for little more reason than his own amusement.

In May 1718, Teach pulled off his most audacious stunt to date, blockading the port of Charles Town (now Charleston) in South Carolina. He pillaged all boat traffic for five days, kidnapped several local dignitaries and held the entire town to ransom to demand

70
The percentage of *La Concorde's* crew that was ill or dead when Blackbeard sailed up to plunder it



A PIRATE RIOT
Blackbeard and Charles Vane's crews party the night away on Ocracoke Island



FIERY IMAGE

The account from Johnson's *A General History of Pyrates*, states that "he wore a fur-cap, and stuck a lighted match on each side, under it".

PISTOLS

According to eye-witness accounts, Blackbeard wore a sash of pistols – almost certainly flintlocks – during combat. Flintlocks were effective, but hard-to-load weapons.

WHISKERS

So crucial to his image that he took his name from it, Blackbeard's braided facial hair was instantly recognisable. It was also reminiscent of the kraken – a fictional but feared monstrous octopus.

DEMON PIRATE

Blackbeard created his own, devilish figure

Remarkably, there's no evidence that Teach took part in any sword fights until his final, fatal clash. It's quite probable that the image he had made for himself, as a cruel, terrifying and satanic beast, rather than a mere human, helped him to avoid action. The more intimidating he looked, the more likely his victims were to surrender, and the more likely he was to avoid a fight. And that's exactly what most of them did.

SWORD

The favourite blade of the time was the cutlass, and we know Blackbeard made use of such a weapon in his last fight.

AS SEEN ON SCREEN

Blackbeard's image is so powerful that it has stood the test of time – some **300 years later**, it lives on. When Disney added the character to its *Pirates of the Caribbean* series, little elaboration was needed to create a **terrifying barbarian**.

medical supplies. Shortly afterwards, further north in Beaufort Inlet, two of Teach's ships ran aground on a sandbar, and were critically damaged. The pirates were left with just Bonnet's ship *The Revenge* and one other sloop.

PREDATOR TURNED PREY

During the Charles Town blockade, Teach and Bonnet had learnt that the Royal Governor of the Bahamas, Woodes Rogers, was on his way

east, with orders to smash the Pirate Republic and restore order. The men were already aware that

they had until 5 September 1718 to present themselves to British authorities in order to get a royal pardon (see page 34). Possibly at Teach's insistence, Bonnet travelled to Bath in North Carolina to test the waters, and duly received his pardon from Governor Charles Eden.

While Bonnet was absent, Teach stripped the *The Revenge* of all its valuables and took off,



"I'M A BAD MAN"
Ian McShane made a menacing Blackbeard in *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* (2011)



THE QUEEN ANNE'S REVENGE

The flagship of the most notorious captain of the Golden Age of Piracy was befitting of its master...

Edward Teach – better known as **Blackbeard** – sailed this frigate for less than a year before beaching her in North Carolina in May 1718. But during Teach's heyday, the *Queen Anne's Revenge (QAR)* was the terror of the seas around Africa and the Caribbean.

Built in England in 1710, the 300-ton vessel was originally called *Concord*. Captured by the French in 1711, it was then modified to carry slaves and renamed *La Concorde de Nantes*. Blackbeard

seized the ship in a raid on 28 November 1717, off the coast of St Vincent.

He renamed his new acquisition the *Queen Anne's Revenge* (in honour of the last Stuart monarch, a reflection of Teach's alleged Jacobite sympathies) and armed it with 40 guns. Now a formidable fighting ship, she was fatally damaged when run aground in 1718, ostensibly while the crew were trying to 'caren' the ship (scrape its hull), but possibly in a deliberate act by Teach, who may have been trying to split his men and ships up.

16,000

The number of artefacts that have been discovered at the wreck of the QAR

STUFF OF LEGENDS

Blackbeard and the QAR became so famous that one legend claimed the **ship was alive** and that it would only obey its captain.

ARMAMENT

Under Blackbeard's leadership, the ship carried 40 cannons, each operated by four men, capable of firing 10kg cannonballs.

RIGGINGS

Ropes and pulleys moved the cannons in and out of position, and held the cannon fast to the ship's bulwark.

BORE

The inner space of the barrel, which the shot travels through.

COVER OF THE CANNON

NOOSE

A strong rope that stopped the cannon from moving backwards when discharging.

GUN CARRIAGE

The structure that supported the cannon, which would weigh around 900kg.

CANNONBALLS

REAR RIGGING

Used to manoeuvre the cannon and to prevent it moving while sailing or when it was inactive.

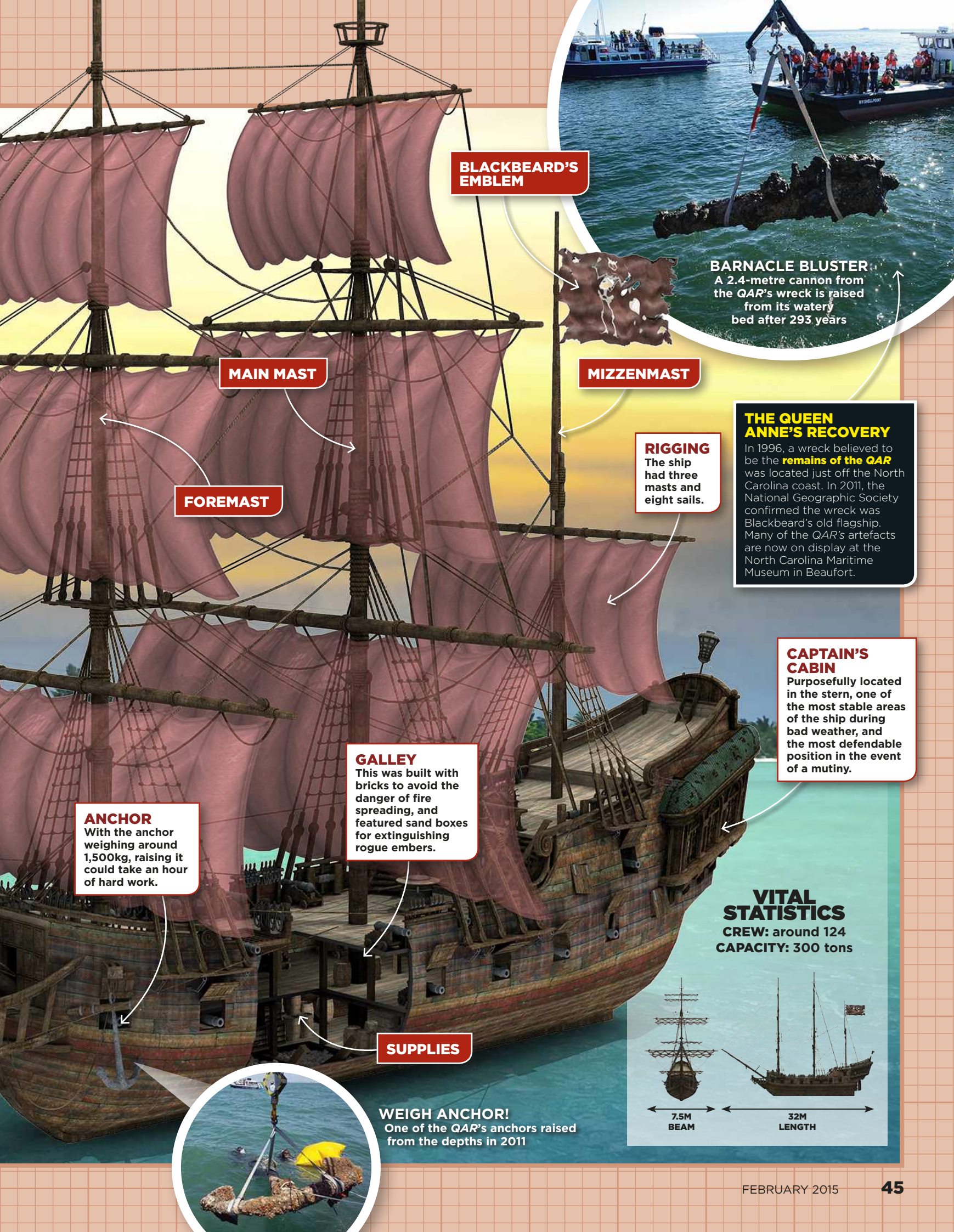
BOWSPRIT

RAMROD

Used to pack the load of shot and wads into the cannon.

SPONGE

Soaked with water and used to cool the bore after a shot (it was crucial to extinguish any embers before reloading, to avoid premature firing).



BLACKBEARD'S EMBLEM



BARNACLE BLUSTER
A 2.4-metre cannon from the QAR's wreck is raised from its watery bed after 293 years

MAIN MAST

MIZZENMAST

FOREMAST

RIGGING
The ship had three masts and eight sails.

THE QUEEN ANNE'S RECOVERY
In 1996, a wreck believed to be the **remains of the QAR** was located just off the North Carolina coast. In 2011, the National Geographic Society confirmed the wreck was Blackbeard's old flagship. Many of the QAR's artefacts are now on display at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

CAPTAIN'S CABIN
Purposefully located in the stern, one of the most stable areas of the ship during bad weather, and the most defensible position in the event of a mutiny.

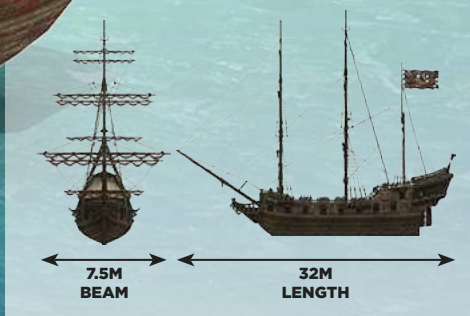
GALLEY
This was built with bricks to avoid the danger of fire spreading, and featured sand boxes for extinguishing rogue embers.

ANCHOR
With the anchor weighing around 1,500kg, raising it could take an hour of hard work.

VITAL STATISTICS
CREW: around 124
CAPACITY: 300 tons

SUPPLIES

WEIGH ANCHOR!
One of the QAR's anchors raised from the depths in 2011





EXPERT VIEW

Angus Konstam,
Author, historian
and pirate expert

PIRATES WERE, PERHAPS, THE MOST DEMOCRATIC GROUP OF THE ERA

Who was the most successful pirate of the age?

I'd say Bartholomew Roberts, aka Black Bart, as he captured the most prizes. However Blackbeard was the best known – both then and now.

Given the blurry line between privateers and pirates, do the latter deserve their bloodthirsty reputation?

A privateer is essentially a pirate working on government contract. While his country is at war, if he held a 'letter of marque' he could attack the state's enemies. Pirates attacked whoever they pleased, operating outside the law. Most captured prize ships through intimidation rather than violence. A few pirates though, were out-and-out psychopaths – especially Edward Low, who earned a reputation for unnecessary violence and torture. By contrast, Blackbeard was something of a pussycat. There's no evidence he killed anybody before his final battle.

Was there a genuine code of conduct among pirates?

Yes, I think there was. Surviving examples – such as the one drawn up by Bartholomew Roberts – have been recorded, and there are lots of instances of these piratical codes in operation. Pirates were, perhaps, the most democratic group of the era.

Why do we have an enduring fascination with these criminals?

Pirates appeal to the rebel in us – the desire to break the rules and chart our own course. This appeals to children in particular, and to those of us who never admit to fully growing up. Unfortunately a lot of the myths that surround piracy have sanitised them, so all we think about is this spirit of freedom and rebellion, rather than the fact that these people were hardened criminals, outcasts from society, and on the run. A pirate's life tended to be nasty, brutish and short!



GRISLY END

MAIN: A dramatic interpretation of Blackbeard's last moments
INSET: The infamous pirate's head hangs from Maynard's sloop



HUNTING TROPHY

Governor Spotswood had promised Lieutenant Maynard a **cash reward** if he delivered Blackbeard's head. To brandish his prize, the lieutenant had the pirate's noggin slung to the bow as he sailed home.

marooning some of the crew. When Bonnet returned, he was furious at this betrayal and followed in pursuit. Perhaps fortunately, Bonnet never found his former colleague. He ended up falling back into piracy, however, and was caught just a few months later. The 'Gentleman Pirate' – a curious character to the last, who offered to have all his limbs cut off in return for his life – was hanged in Charles Town on 10 December 1718.

Meanwhile, Teach had received his own pardon from Governor Eden and was living in semi-retirement in Bath. He kept his last remaining ship, renamed the *Adventure*, and moored it close by at Ocracoke Island. He occasionally slid back into piracy – he earned an arrest warrant from the Governor of Pennsylvania and attacked two French ships leaving the Caribbean. Eden – who was possibly taking a slice of the loot – appears to have been covering his back.

BOOZY SHINDIG

When an old acquaintance, Charles Vane, attempted to lure Teach back into a full-time life of piracy, however, he declined. Instead, the pair embarked on a week-long boozy shindig on Ocracoke Island, together with a number of other old buddies – including, according to some accounts, 'Calico' Jack Rackham.

Vane had rejected the offer of a pardon, and was a wanted man. He was being hunted by none other than Teach's old mentor, Captain Hornigold, and when word of this Flying Gang (see page 34) reunion emerged, it was big news.

Alexander Spotswood, Governor of Virginia, was not amused at the thought of partying pirates living next door. He decided to take pre-emptive action to protect his citizens, just in case the pirates decided to go on the rampage.

Although Carolina was well beyond his jurisdiction, Spotswood commissioned a task force to hunt Teach down – which he paid for

using his own money. One group of men went overland to Bath Town, while Lieutenant Robert Maynard of the Royal Navy led the approach by sea. Maynard, who had 57 trained men aboard two armed sloops – the *Jane* and the *Ranger* – discovered Teach entertaining guests aboard the *Adventure* at Ocracoke, on the evening of 21 November. He waited until morning before making his move.

When Maynard launched his attack, Teach was caught with a reduced crew, but he still made a fight of it. He quickly cut his anchor rope and hit the ships with a broadside that disabled the *Ranger* and killed its senior officers.

As the *Jane* and the *Adventure* drew close to each other, Teach's men sent their grappling hooks across and boarded Maynard's ship.

In anticipation of close combat, the lieutenant had ordered most of his men to stay below decks, fooling the pirates into thinking they had the numerical advantage. The ruse worked, and the pirates were caught by surprise.

Teach and Maynard fired their flintlocks at each other, and then reached for their blades. Teach broke Maynard's sword with his cutlass, but the pirates had been forced back, leaving their captain surrounded and isolated. Teach was slashed across the neck by one of Maynard's men and then finished off with multiple wounds. Their leader down, the remaining pirates surrendered.

Teach's head was hacked off and hung from bowsprit of Maynard's sloop – a grim trophy from his victory. Blackbeard would long live on in the public's imagination, but his pirate days were done. ☹

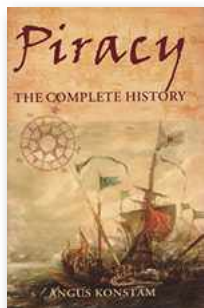
5
The number of gunshot wounds that Blackbeard took in his last battle



GET HOOKED

Is the pirate life for you? Continue your own piratical adventure...

BOOKS



◀ PIRACY: THE COMPLETE HISTORY

By Angus Konstam
This detailed book puts the Golden Age of Piracy in context, tracking the profession back from its earliest times, up to the modern day.

ALSO READ

- ▶ **Under the Black Flag**
An account of real pirate life by David Cordingly
- ▶ **A General History of the Pyrates**
The mysterious Captain Charles Johnson's contemporary account
- ▶ **Eye Wonder: Pirates**
For younger readers, from Dorling Kindersley



ON SCREEN

◀ BLACKBEARD: A TERROR AT SEA (2006)

Full of exciting battles, thrilling chases and incredible swordplay, this made-for-TV movie focuses on what is known about Teach, re-creating his most notorious achievements. It has a decent cast, too.



◀ PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (2003 onward)

Inspired as much by a theme-park ride as historical events, these rollicking action movies inject a hint of the supernatural into traditional tales of pirate lore. The next instalment is due in 2017.

EVENTS



PIRATE WALKS, BRISTOL

Discover Bristol's long history of pirates on a fun and educational walk around the city.
www.piratewalks.co.uk

DON'T MISS...

- ▶ Brixham Pirate Festival, Devon, 2-4 May
- ▶ International Talk Like a Pirate Day, 19 Septemb-arr!

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MP ELECT

FIRST STEPS IN POLITICS

After escaping a prisoner-of-war camp in South Africa in 1899, Churchill became a national hero, which helped launch his political career. In 1900, around the time this photo was taken, he was elected as Conservative MP for Oldham – albeit at the second attempt.

CHURCHILL: A BORN LEADER

Half a century after the death of our pre-eminent wartime leader on 24 January 1965, his life and achievements continue to inspire...

ALAMY X3, GETTY X3, PA XI

BOY TO MAN

Though born into privilege, from a young age Churchill was determined to make his mark on the world...



INFANT CLASS

LONELY BOYHOOD

Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill – here pictured aged seven – was born on 30 November 1874 at Blenheim Palace, home of his grandfather, the 7th Duke of Marlborough. His parents were distant, and he became attached to his nanny, Mrs Everest.



SOLDIER SCRIBE

WAR CORRESPONDENT

Churchill graduated from Sandhurst in 1894, served in India and the Sudan, and began writing to boost his army wages. This photo shows him in 1900 as a war correspondent during the Boer War.



TRUE LOVE

DARLING CLEMENTINE

On 12 September 1908, Churchill married Clementine Hozier, over ten years his junior, after a short engagement. They had five children, though the fourth, Marigold, died before the age of three. Lady Churchill died in 1977, aged 92.



**IN PICTURES
WINSTON
CHURCHILL**



OUT OF PLACE

THE SIEGE OF SIDNEY STREET

On 2 January 1911, a gang of Latvian revolutionaries – who were wanted for a burglary in which several policemen were shot – began a gun battle with police at Sidney Street in Stepney, East London. Churchill, then Home Secretary, arrived to view the action – and was criticised for ‘grandstanding’.


**“VICTORY AT ALL
COSTS. WITHOUT
VICTORY THERE
IS NO SURVIVAL”**

WINSTON AT WAR

SPEAKING TO THE MASSES

At the outbreak of World War I, Churchill was First Lord of the Admiralty. An ardent moderniser, he championed the use of aeroplanes in combat. Later in the war he became Minister of Munitions, and is shown here – before his appointment – speaking at Enfield Munitions Factory in 1916.



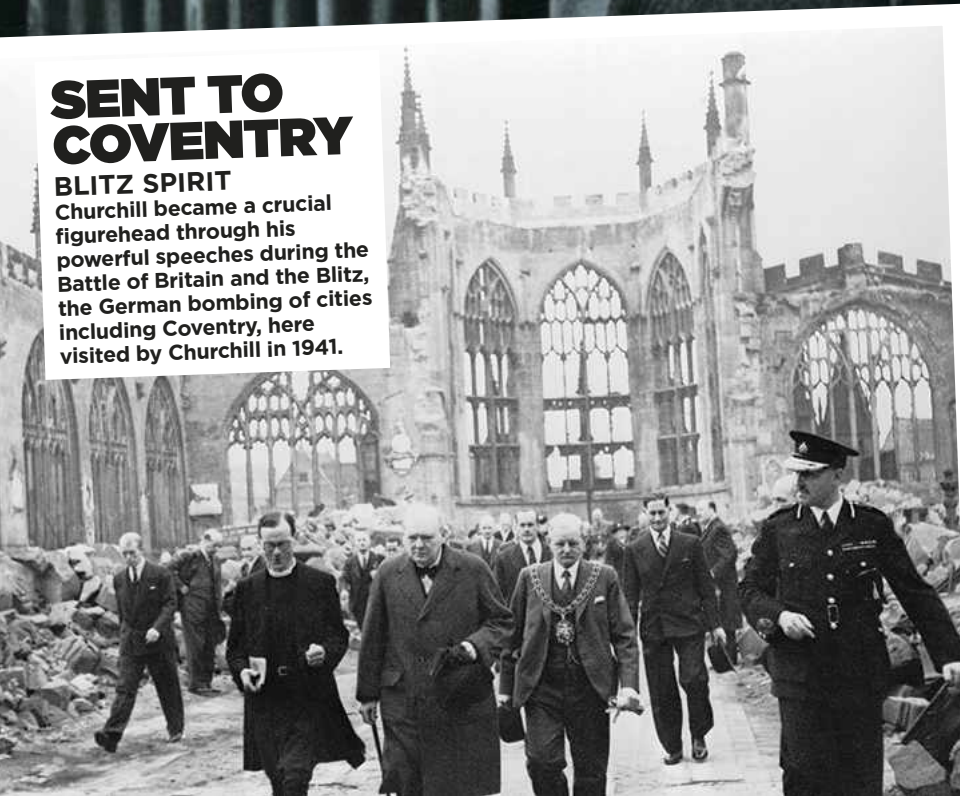


**“HITLER KNOWS THAT
HE WILL HAVE TO BREAK
US IN THIS ISLAND
OR LOSE THE WAR”**

SENT TO COVENTRY

BLITZ SPIRIT

Churchill became a crucial figurehead through his powerful speeches during the Battle of Britain and the Blitz, the German bombing of cities including Coventry, here visited by Churchill in 1941.



SIGN OF THE TIMES

V FOR VICTORY

Churchill, who became Prime Minister on 10 May 1940, will be forever linked with the two-fingered gesture, first endorsing the symbol (suggested by a Belgian politician) during his speech of 19 July 1941.

WORLD WAR II

For five challenging years Churchill galvanised soldiers and civilians alike with his appearances and speeches...

IN PICTURES
**WINSTON
CHURCHILL**



THEATRE OF WAR

NORTH AFRICA CAMPAIGN

On 13 May 1943, the Allies secured victory in North Africa after three long years of fighting – “the end of the beginning”, Churchill said. Here, on 1 June, he’s leaving the amphitheatre at Carthage, having given a speech to his triumphant troops in Tunisia.

FULL MONTY

THE FRONT AT NORMANDY

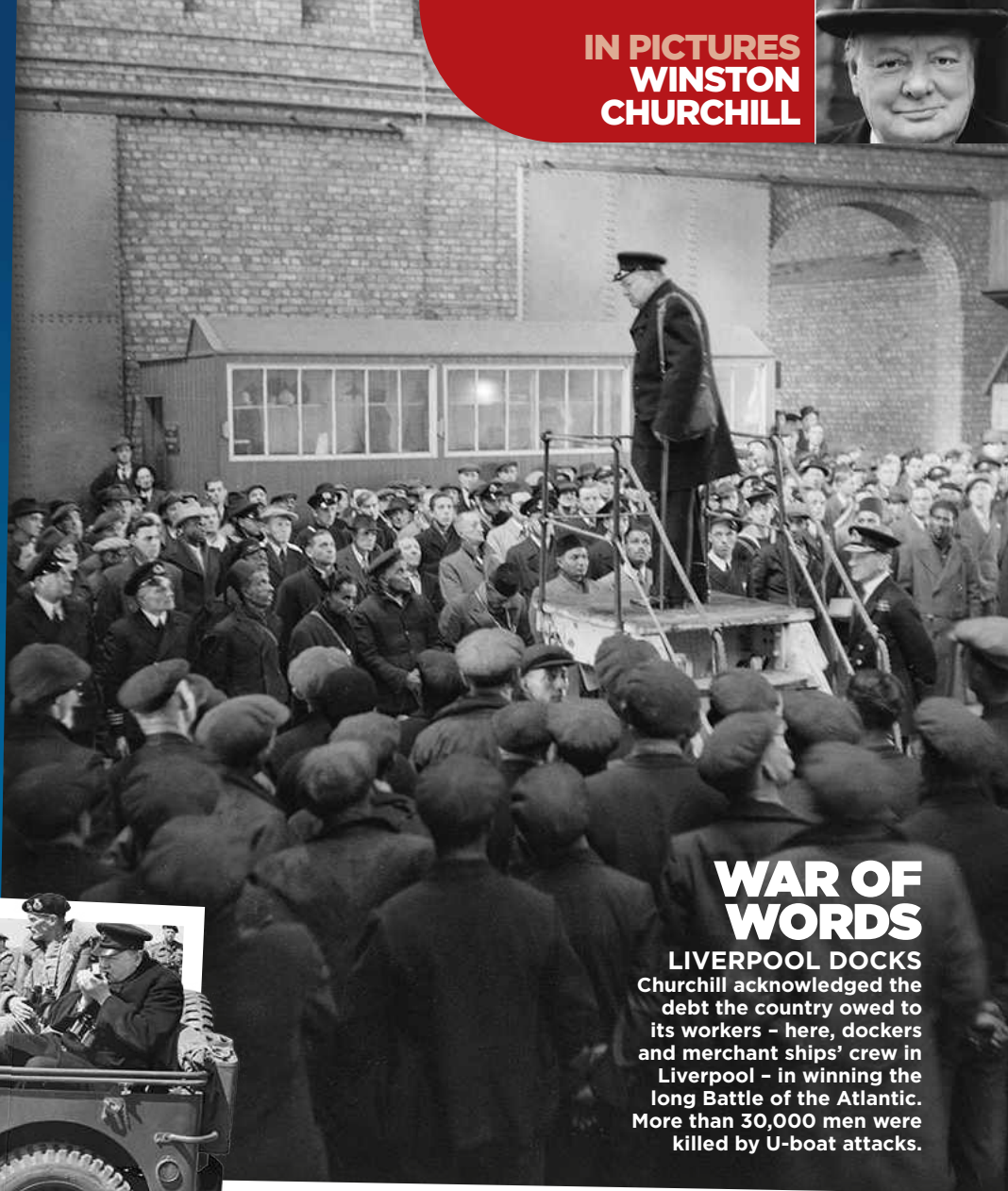
Churchill did not always have a cordial relationship with his generals – even Montgomery, hero of El Alamein and Normandy, who he reportedly described as “insufferable in victory”.



HOT SEAT

OUTSIDE HITLER’S BUNKER

During his July 1945 visit to troops in Berlin after the city had fallen to the Allies, Churchill perched gingerly on a chair on which the Führer, who committed suicide on 30 April, may have sat. Just weeks earlier, on 8 May – declared Victory in Europe Day – Germany’s defeat had been secured.



WAR OF WORDS

LIVERPOOL DOCKS

Churchill acknowledged the debt the country owed to its workers – here, dockers and merchant ships’ crew in Liverpool – in winning the long Battle of the Atlantic. More than 30,000 men were killed by U-boat attacks.



POWER OF THREE

POTSDAM CONFERENCE

On 17 July 1945, Churchill met with Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin and US President Harry S. Truman to discuss the future of Germany. Despite his wartime achievements, on 26 July Churchill lost the general election to Clement Attlee.

ALAMY X3, GETTY X4

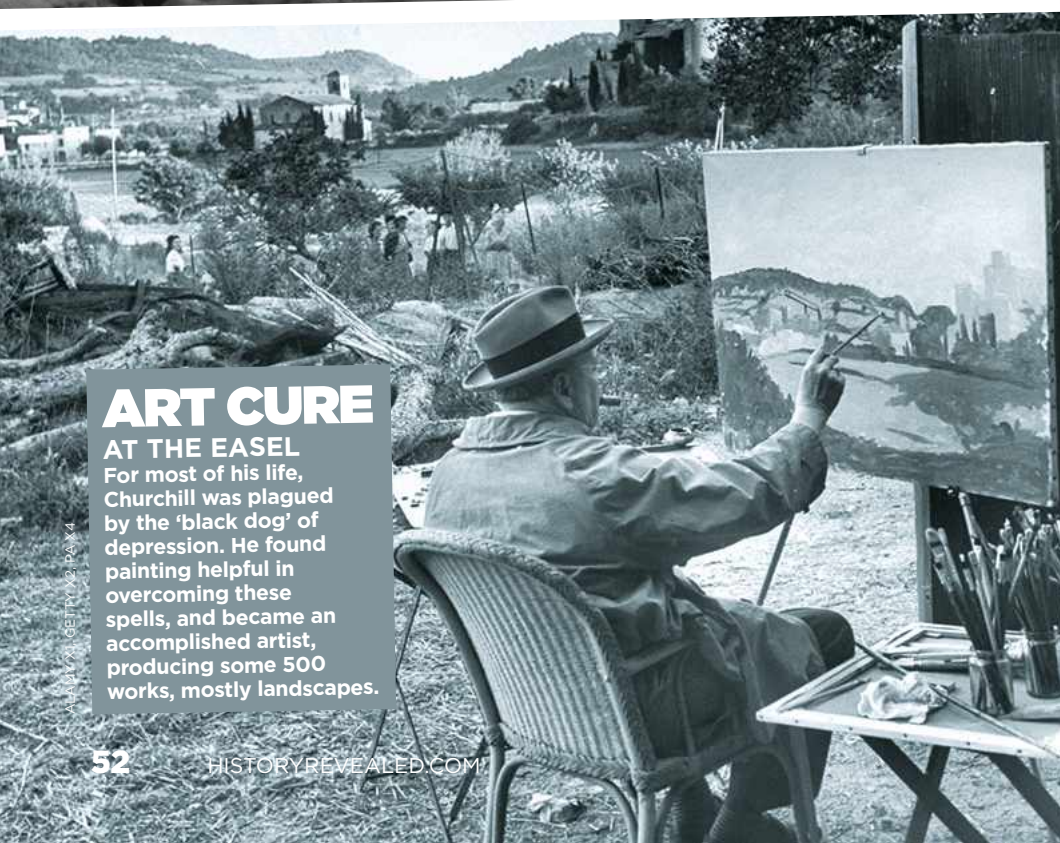


IN PICTURES WINSTON CHURCHILL

PEACE TIME

ON THE CÔTE D'AZUR

As post-war leader of the opposition, Churchill stayed active - his 1946 'Iron Curtain' speech signalled the start of the Cold War. But he did find time to relax - here on the Côte d'Azur in the south of France.



ART CURE

AT THE EASEL

For most of his life, Churchill was plagued by the 'black dog' of depression. He found painting helpful in overcoming these spells, and became an accomplished artist, producing some 500 works, mostly landscapes.

STATE FUNERAL

On 24 January 1965, after a severe stroke, Winston Churchill died in his London home. He was 90 years old...



LONDON MOURNS

CROWDS QUEUE TO PAY RESPECTS

Churchill's body lay in state at Westminster Hall for three days after his death. The public response was huge - 321,360 people filed past his coffin before it was placed on a gun carriage and carried to St Paul's Cathedral for the funeral.



GUARD OF HONOUR

CORTÈGE ON THE STRAND


Churchill's state funeral on 30 January was the largest in history at that time. It was attended by representatives from 112 countries, and an estimated 350 million people - 25 million of them in Britain - watched the funeral on television.



FUNERAL TRAIN

CHURCHILL'S FINAL DEPARTURE

After the funeral, the coffin was taken by boat to Waterloo Station, honoured by a 19-gun salute and RAF fly-by en route. The steam locomotive *Winston Churchill* pulled the train to Oxfordshire, where the great leader was buried in the family plot at St Martin's Church, Bladon, near his birthplace at Blenheim Palace.

A black and white photograph showing Queen Elizabeth II on the left, wearing a tiara and a light-colored dress, shaking hands with Winston Churchill on the right. Churchill is wearing a dark suit and a bow tie. They are standing in front of a building, with a car and other people visible in the background.

**“NEVER GIVE IN, EXCEPT
TO CONVICTIONS
OF HONOUR AND
GOOD SENSE”**

ROYAL VISIT

QUEEN ELIZABETH AT DOWNING STREET

In October 1951, after six years in opposition, Churchill was once more elected Prime Minister. He resigned in April 1955, shortly after this visit from the Queen. She later offered to create him Duke of London – an offer that was declined because his son, Randolph, did not want to inherit the title.

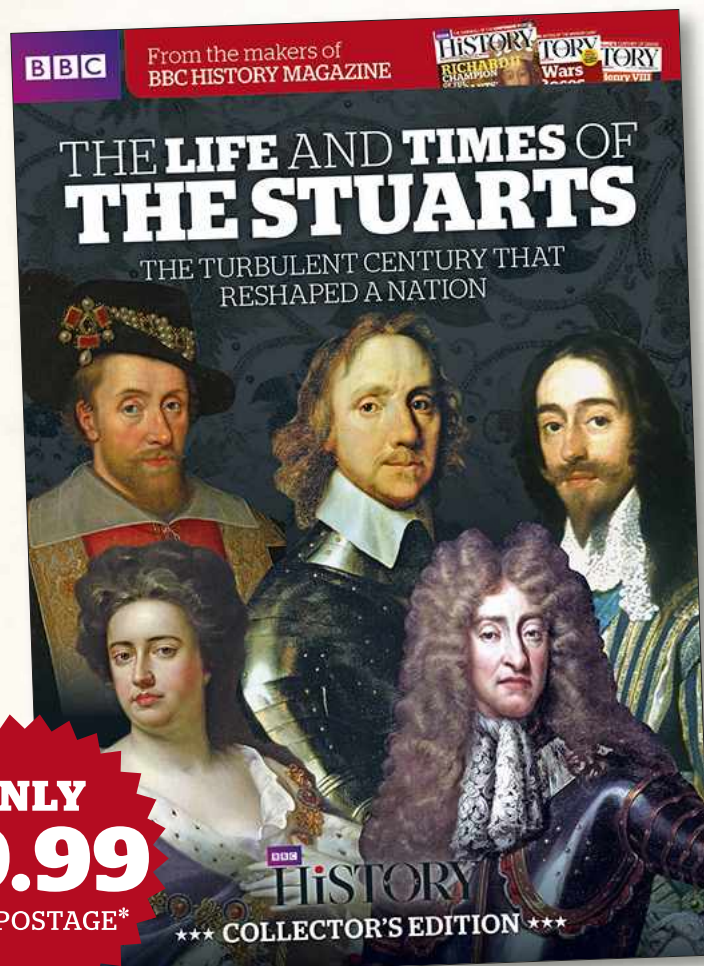


FINAL DAYS

BRIEF RETIREMENT

Churchill – now a Knight of the Garter – continued to serve as an MP until 1964, the year this photo (with Clementine) was taken. He had suffered a series of strokes since 1949, and his health was rapidly deteriorating.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE STUARTS



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YOU ASK, WE ANSWER

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OUR EXPERTS

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BROTHER BUBBLES
Dom Pérignon is credited
with creating champagne
- but in fact he worked
hard to keep his wine still

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

JUST PLANE WRONG

During the large-scale aerial
skirmish on 15 September 1940,
which became known as Battle
of Britain Day, the RAF claimed
to have shot down 185 German
aircraft - but Luftwaffe
records show that
only 60 failed
to return.

WHO INVENTED CHAMPAGNE?



On 4 August 1693, a
Benedictine monk called
Dom Pierre Pérignon
shouted excitedly for his monastic
brothers. "Come quickly! I am
drinking the stars!" he exclaimed -
having at last cracked the secret to
producing sparkling champagne.

Or so the story goes. Alas, this
charming anecdote is a 19th-century
myth. In fact, Dom Pérignon worked
tirelessly to eradicate bubbles in
the wine of his region, Champagne.

When bottled wine cooled before all
of the sugar had been converted into
alcohol, fermentation halted. Then,
when bottles warmed up again in
the summer, dormant yeasts became
active, producing carbon dioxide
and effervescence. The build-up
of pressure made many bottles of
poor-quality French glass explode in
the cellar - hence the contents were
known as the 'devil's wine'.

In fact, there's evidence that
the method for encouraging

secondary fermentation to
produce sparkling wine was first
described in England in 1662.
English glass was tougher than
French, and used airtight corks,
so very fizzy wine could be
enjoyed as a thrilling novelty.

By the early 18th century, the
French aristocracy had acquired
the taste, and marques such
as Veuve Clicquot, Krug and
Bollinger were later launched. The
champagne called Dom Pérignon
was first produced in 1921 - and
now the 'devil's wine' is the most
famous in the world! **GJ**

145

The number of spare underpants (linen loincloths) found in Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings

Why was the **Black Prince** called '**Black**'?

Edward Plantagenet, eldest son and heir of England's King Edward III, was known during his lifetime as 'Edward of Woodstock', after his birthplace. The sobriquet 'Black Prince' does not appear in written records until the 16th century, nearly two centuries after his death, though as a nickname it may date back to his lifetime.

The origin of the term is just as obscure as the date it was first used. It may stem from Edward's habit, when jousting, of putting aside his royal coat of arms in favour of a black 'shield for peace' decorated with three white ostrich feathers. Some historians believe he also wore black armour, while others have suggested that the name may have been derived from the French habit of referring to a particularly brutal commander as a 'black boar'. In truth, we do not know for certain. **RM**



BLACK GOLD
Edward, the 'Black Prince', is buried at Canterbury



BAD HEIR DAY
Henry Fitzroy was the son Henry craved, but never got to be king

DID HENRY VIII HAVE ANY ILLEGITIMATE MALE OFFSPRING?

Notoriously male-child light, King Henry VIII must have been frustrated by the fact he was able to father boys out of wedlock with comparative ease. There are rumours that the King sired seven children, including five boys.

Henry, however, only officially acknowledged one. Henry Fitzroy was the son of Elizabeth 'Bessie' Blount, one of Catherine of Aragon's ladies in waiting (the prefix 'Fitz' refers to illegitimate offspring while 'roy' is an anglicised version of 'roi', meaning 'king'). His exact birthdate is unknown as it was, for obvious reasons, hushed up, but it was sometime around June 1519. Six years

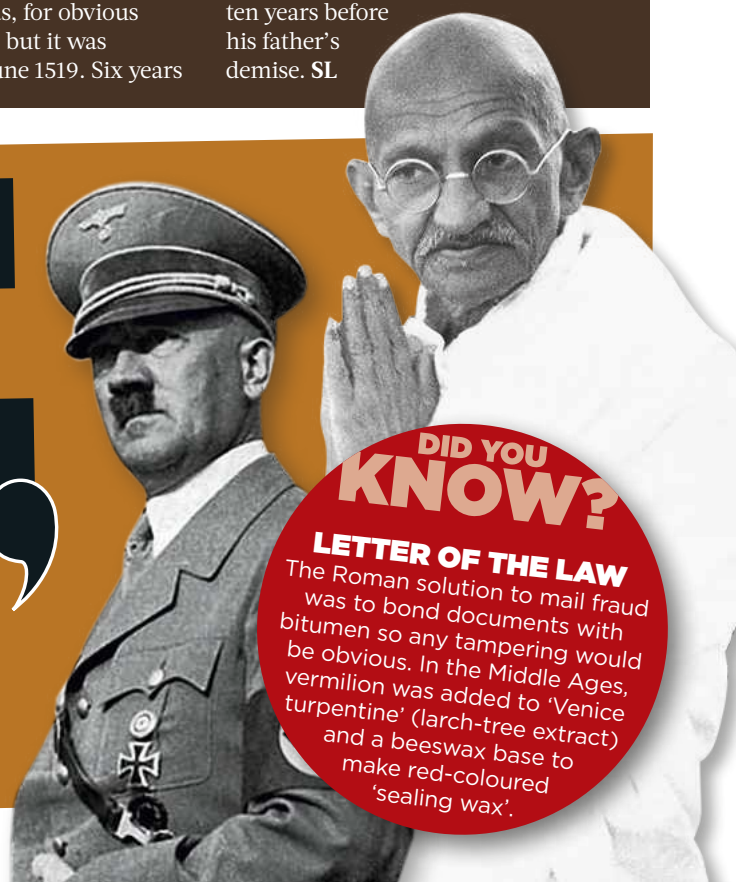
later, as it became increasingly clear the King was having problems in the heir-department, Henry suddenly acknowledged young Fitzroy.

In an elaborate ceremony, Henry showered money and honours upon his son, including a double-dukedom (Richmond and Somerset). Suggestions the new Duke should be married to his older half-sister, Mary, shoehorning him to pole-position for the throne, came to nothing. Any other cunning plans about his succession ended with Fitzroy's early death in 1536, more than ten years before his father's demise. **SL**

"IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT YOU ARE TODAY THE ONE PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO CAN PREVENT A WAR WHICH MAY REDUCE HUMANITY TO THE SAVAGE STATE."

LETTER FROM GANDHI TO HITLER, 23 JULY 1939

It seems both surprising and completely in character that the leader of the Indian independence movement, and renowned opponent of violence, urged Hitler to avoid conflict, signing off: "Your sincere friend". In the event, just over a month later German troops invaded Poland – and World War II began. In 1940, Gandhi wrote to the Nazi dictator once more, declaring that "your own writings and pronouncements... leave no room for doubt that many of your acts are monstrous." There is no record of a reply.

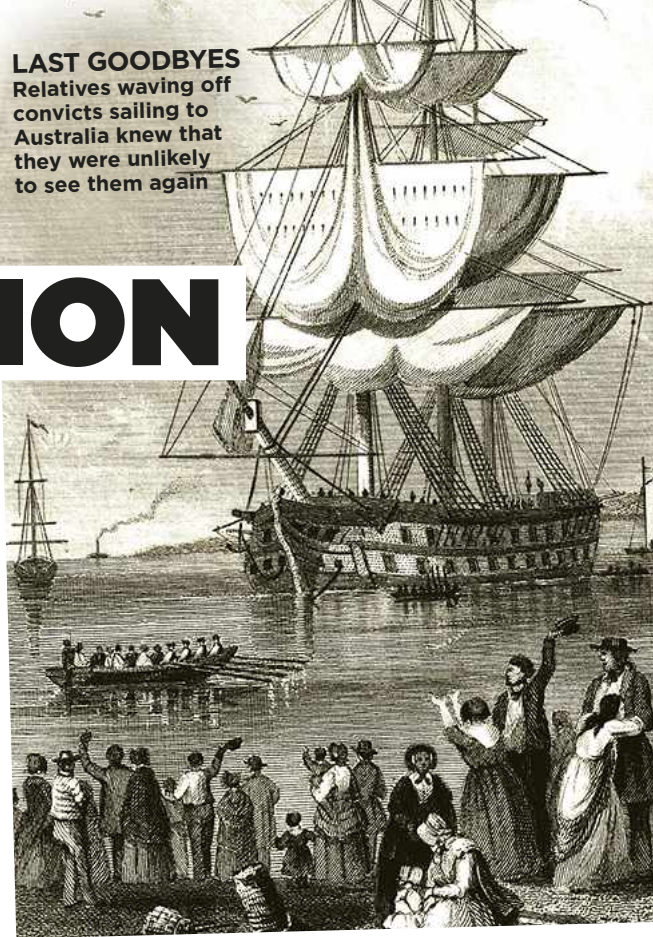


DID YOU KNOW?

LETTER OF THE LAW

The Roman solution to mail fraud was to bond documents with bitumen so any tampering would be obvious. In the Middle Ages, vermilion was added to 'Venice turpentine' (larch-tree extract) and a beeswax base to make red-coloured 'sealing wax'.

LAST GOODBYES
Relatives waving off convicts sailing to Australia knew that they were unlikely to see them again



IN A NUTSHELL

TRANSPORTATION TO AUSTRALIA

More than 160,000 convicts were exiled to jails and harsh colonies on the far side of the world – some for crimes as trivial as stealing beans



What was transportation?

It was a system practised from the 18th century to the mid-19th century whereby convicts were shipped overseas from Britain to serve their sentences.

Why were these convicts transported?

Britain was struggling to accommodate its prisoners at home. From the mid-18th century, a soaring population – combined with social disruptions brought about by the Industrial Revolution – led to an increase in crime. The country's inadequate prisons couldn't house all of the convicted criminals, so an alternative punishment had to be devised for those whose crimes were not deemed serious enough to warrant the death penalty. Transportation to colonies seemed to fit the bill.

Why was Australia chosen as a destination?

At first, British convicts were sent to the colonies in North America but that option was halted by the American Revolutionary

War (1775–1783). Seeking an alternative, the government turned to the vast southern continent that had been claimed for Britain by the explorer Captain James Cook in 1770. Creating a prison colony there would not only solve a domestic problem – where to imprison convicts – but would also help to establish another outpost in the growing empire.

The First Fleet departed Britain in May 1787, its 11 ships carrying more than 700 convicts. They arrived in New South Wales (as Cook had named the territory) the following year after a voyage of 252 days, and established a settlement at the site of the modern city of Sydney.

What kind of people were transported to Australia?

Even those who had committed relatively minor crimes (by today's standards) could face transportation to the new colony. Over 80 per cent of those shipped out were male, and they tended to be fairly young, though it wasn't unheard of for elderly convicts to be transported.

What were conditions like on the journey?

They varied substantially between voyages. On the First Fleet, the prisoners were treated relatively well and the vast majority survived the long journey. However, conditions were far worse in later fleets – prisoners suffered bad treatment, poor rations and outbreaks of disease. On the Second Fleet, which arrived in Australia in 1790, hundreds of the convicts died before the ships landed, with many of the survivors gravely ill.

What kind of lives did convicts lead in the colony?

Those who disembarked in New South Wales were set to work for the local authorities or for the free settlers who lived alongside the penal colony. Working long hours and enduring physical punishments, life was often very tough for the convicts, especially in the early years when food was in short supply. On the other hand, there were opportunities to be granted 'tickets for leave' for good behaviour. Such a ticket enabled a prisoner to serve the remainder of his

or her sentence as a 'free' man or woman, provided they did not seek to leave. Even after their sentences had been served, most former convicts opted to stay in Australia, helping to expand the British settlement there.

When and why did the practice of transportation end?

As the 19th century progressed, Britain established a number of other penal settlements around Australia. However, at the same time, opposition to the system was growing. In Britain, some felt the punishment was unnecessarily cruel, while others bemoaned the fact that the convicts lived and worked in relative freedom.

At the same time, the British prison system was being developed, meaning that the need to export the country's convicts was diminishing.

In Australia, on the other hand, the growing number of free settlers became unhappy with their new country's status as a giant prison. They objected to the use of unpaid convict labour – domestic workers couldn't compete with that.

Faced with these pressures, the system of transportation was finally ended in 1868.

HARD LABOUR


Convicts transported to colonies in places such as Tasmania faced heavy workloads and harsh conditions – many died



HOW DID THEY DO THAT?

SAINT BASIL'S CATHEDRAL

The eye-catching masterpiece of Moscow incorporates ten churches in one dazzling domed confection

 The Cathedral of the Intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos on the Moat, more commonly known as the Cathedral of Vasily (Basil) the Blessed, is a kaleidoscopic creation of red-brick towers and striped onion domes. Originally comprising eight separate churches surrounding a central church of intercession – the tenth was added later – each of its components commemorates an event, is devoted to different saints and boasts its own treasures. Reaching to the sky like the flames of a giant bonfire, it's quite unlike any other building in Russia – or, indeed, anywhere else. It was confiscated by the Soviet state in 1928 and is now a museum.

THE SYMBOLISM OF DOMES

The origin of 'onion' domes in Russia is debated. Some think they were first used in Novgorod around 1050, while others believe that Ivan the Terrible introduced them in the 16th century. The symbolism is also debated. It's said that the form is designed to resemble a candle (Jesus being the 'light of the world'). A single dome represents Jesus; three, the Holy Trinity; five, Christ and the four evangelists; 13, the saviour and 12 apostles. Colours are also significant: gold symbolises Jesus; blue the Holy Spirit or Virgin Mary; green the Holy Trinity.

TOWERS OF THE TERRIBLE

Built by Tsar Ivan IV ('the Terrible') between 1555 and 1561 on the site of a Trinity Church, St Basil's commemorates Ivan's earlier conquest of Kazan. The cathedral's towers may originally have been topped with 'helmet' domes that were replaced by the 'onion' style later that century. Added to and restored several times, the cathedral is believed to have been designed by two architects, Barma and Postnik Yakovlev. Ivan ordered they be blinded after the cathedral's completion to ensure that they could never build anything else to compare with it – or so legend has it.



TERRIBLE TSAR

Ivan IV may have been mentally unstable and was feared for his brutal policies

CHURCH OF SAINTS CYPRIAN AND JUSTINIA

This church is devoted to fourth-century martyrs from Antioch, beheaded by order of the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

CHURCH OF THE ALEXANDRIA PATRIARCHS

Dedicated to Saints Alexander, John and Paul.

CHURCH OF SAINT ALEXANDER SVIRSKY

Dedicated to a monk who was canonised less than ten years before St Basil's was built.



KREMLIN CONFUSION
Towering over Moscow's Red Square, St Basil's Cathedral is often mistaken for the Kremlin



CENTRAL TOWER

Though from the west front the church appears symmetrical, the central tower is actually slightly offset to allow room for the nave at the east.

BELL TOWER

In the 17th century, a hip-roofed bell tower (not shown) was added at the south-east of the main complex.

CHURCH OF THE INTERCESSION

At 46 metres high, the tented tower of the central church soars high above the complex.

CHURCH OF THE ICON OF SAINT NICHOLAS THE MIRACLE-MAKER

At 28 metres tall, this church is one of the largest of the complex. It's named for a famous icon miraculously found in a forest by the Velikaya River.

GOD'S GOLD

The interiors of the 10 churches at St Basil's are lavishly adorned with colourful decoration

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Built on the site of the original church, which was in a busy market area.

CHURCH OF THE ENTRY OF CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

This church preserves various relics from the past, including a projectile that hit the building during the revolution of October 1917.

CHURCH OF SAINT BARLAAM OF KHUTYN

Dedicated to a 12th-century Russian hermit.

CHURCH OF SAINT GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR

Dedicated to the saint who, in AD 301, converted Armenia to Christianity.

CHURCH OF SAINT BASIL THE BLESSED

This small temple, added in 1588, is dedicated to the saint who died in 1552 and whose name was later adopted for the whole cathedral.

WHITE STONE FOUNDATIONS



WHY DO WE SAY...

TURN A
BLIND
EYE

Horatio Nelson has gone down in history as the ultimate naval officer: a natural leader, an exceptional strategist, a figurehead determined to sail at the front of the battle. It was that stubborn resolve by the hero of the Battle of Trafalgar that led to the action that spawned this expression – meaning to consciously refuse to acknowledge or act on something.

On 2 April 1801, the British Fleet, under the command of Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, engaged a joint navy of Danish and Norwegian ships at the Battle of Copenhagen. When firing began at 10am, Vice Admiral Nelson, aboard the 74-gun flagship HMS *Elephant*, led the charge. Hours later, the battle still raged. A few Royal Navy vessels had run aground, and it appeared to the cautious Parker that no progress was being made.

Concerned that Nelson was in trouble, but guessing that he wouldn't sail to safety without permission, Parker used flag signals to order the retreat. When Nelson was informed, he raised his telescope to his blind eye – wounded in a previous battle – and announced: "I have only one eye, and I have a right to be blind sometimes... I really do not see the signal!"

Nelson continued the fight – and won a great victory. His bravery and ambition was rewarded with the command of the British fleet, which he led to historic triumph at Trafalgar four years later.

Who was the **Grand Old Duke of York?**

There's been some debate about which Duke of York is the subject of the nursery rhyme. Some say it refers to Richard of York, the father of Edward IV and Richard III. In December 1460, he "gave battle in vain" at Wakefield during the Wars of the Roses, and was killed by the Lancastrians. However, a more likely candidate is Frederick, Duke of York, the second son of King George III. Frederick was Commander-in-Chief of the British Army for much of the Napoleonic

Wars (except for a brief period when he resigned after his mistress was found to be taking bribes to influence the appointment of officers). In 1794, he led an army in an unsuccessful campaign against the French in the Low Countries – and it's probably this campaign to which the nursery rhyme alludes. Though he showed little talent as a general, Frederick was an able administrator, and made a number of important reforms to the Army, improving the lot of the common soldier. He's commemorated by a statue on a granite column at Waterloo Place in London. JH



RHYME OR REASON
Nobody knows whether the 'Grand Old Duke' was 15th-century Richard of York (inset) or Frederick, son of King George III



350

The number of contestants in the first modern beauty contest, *Concours de Beauté*, held in September 1888 in Spa, Belgium.

WHY ARE THERE
24 HOURS IN A DAY?


The history of timekeeping is enormously confusing, but this question has a fairly simple answer. For over 4,000 years we have relied on the duodecimal mathematics of the Bronze Age Babylonians, who built the first great cities in what is now Iraq. They saw the number 12 as much more important than 10 because it is divisible by 2, 3, 4 and 6, making

it particularly versatile in mathematical calculations. What's more, the lunisolar calendar, based on observations of both the Sun and the Moon, used 12 lunar phases per year (with a 13th 'leap' month added every two or three years). So 12 was the numerical cornerstone of the Universe. Early civilisations, including Egypt, divided both sunlit day and night into 12 parts – in total, 24 hours in a day. GJ





WHO WERE THE HUNS?

 The short answer is: we don't really know. Originating from somewhere in Central Asia, the people known as Huns first appeared on the borders of the Roman Empire in the fourth century AD. The Romans found them particularly terrifying because, unlike other so-called barbarians, their customs, religion, lifestyle and language seemed incomprehensible. From the Romans' perspective, the aggressive Huns had no clear targets (land, for example), so successive emperors found it easiest to simply pay

them off with gold. A continual threat to Roman security, the Huns were seen as the antithesis of Mediterranean-style civilisation and, as a consequence, were frequently portrayed in overtly negative, almost 'demonic' terms. Sadly, no objective description of them survives and, as they failed to record their own experiences in any meaningful way, our understanding of who they were and what they wanted from Rome is deeply flawed. MR

ENEMY AT THE GATES

The warlike Huns, led by the infamous Attila, threatened the security of the city of Rome in the fifth century AD

DID YOU KNOW?

PRICKLY SUBJECT

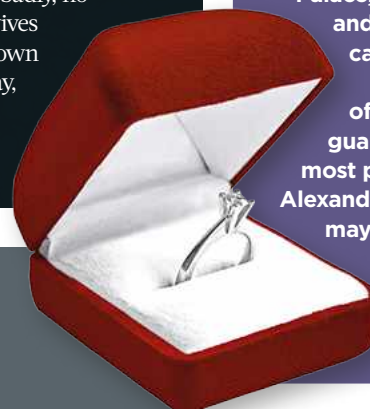
Hedgehogs had an unenviable place in 17th-century medicine. One book of 'physick' suggested sleeplessness could be cured by wearing a hedgehog's skin "like a night-cap". Another recommended sticking hedgehog fat in the ear to treat deafness.

HAS THERE EVER BEEN A MARRIED POPE?




There have been at least four Popes who were legally married before taking Holy Orders: St Hormisdas (514-523), Adrian II (867-872), John XVII (1003) and Clement IV (1265-68) – though Hormisdas was already a widower by the time of his election. The legitimate children of John XVII and Clement IV – three sons and two daughters respectively – all entered religious orders.

The story of Adrian II is more tragic. When he was appointed Pope at the age of 75, both his wife, Stephania, and daughter lived with him in the Lateran Palace, but were abducted and murdered by a man called Eleutherius. Complete celibacy, of course, was far from guaranteed. Perhaps the most promiscuous Pope was Alexander VI (1492-1503), who may have fathered as many as ten illegitimate children, including the infamous Lucrezia Borgia. EB



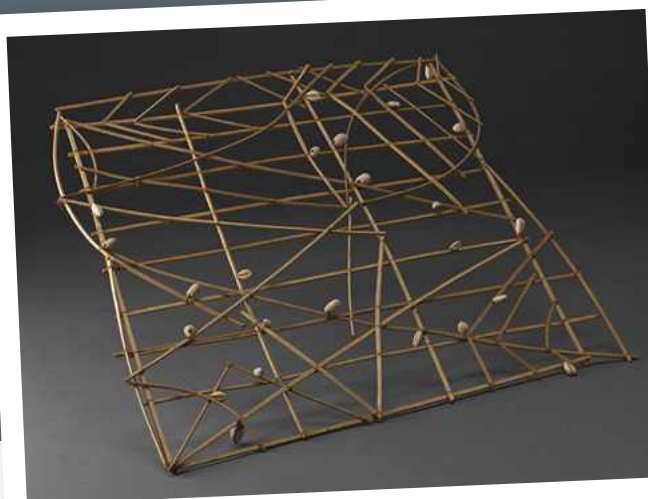
WHAT IS IT?

 This intricately constructed lattice, made from the midribs of palm leaves and cowrie shells lashed together with coconut fibres, isn't an abstract artwork – it's a sea chart. Created by a skilled artisan of one of the villages of the Marshall Islands in Micronesia in the early 19th century, the chart depicts the criss-crossing patterns of waves and swells in the Pacific Ocean between the five islands and 29 atolls indicated by the shells.

The people of the Marshall Islands had to navigate vast expanses of open ocean in small canoes in order to establish trade routes. Without the benefit of paper maps, they relied on memorising these charts – as well as their intimate knowledge of stars and sea currents – to traverse long distances between the islands. www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

ART OR CHART?

The people of the Marshall Islands navigated the Pacific using this fascinating sea chart



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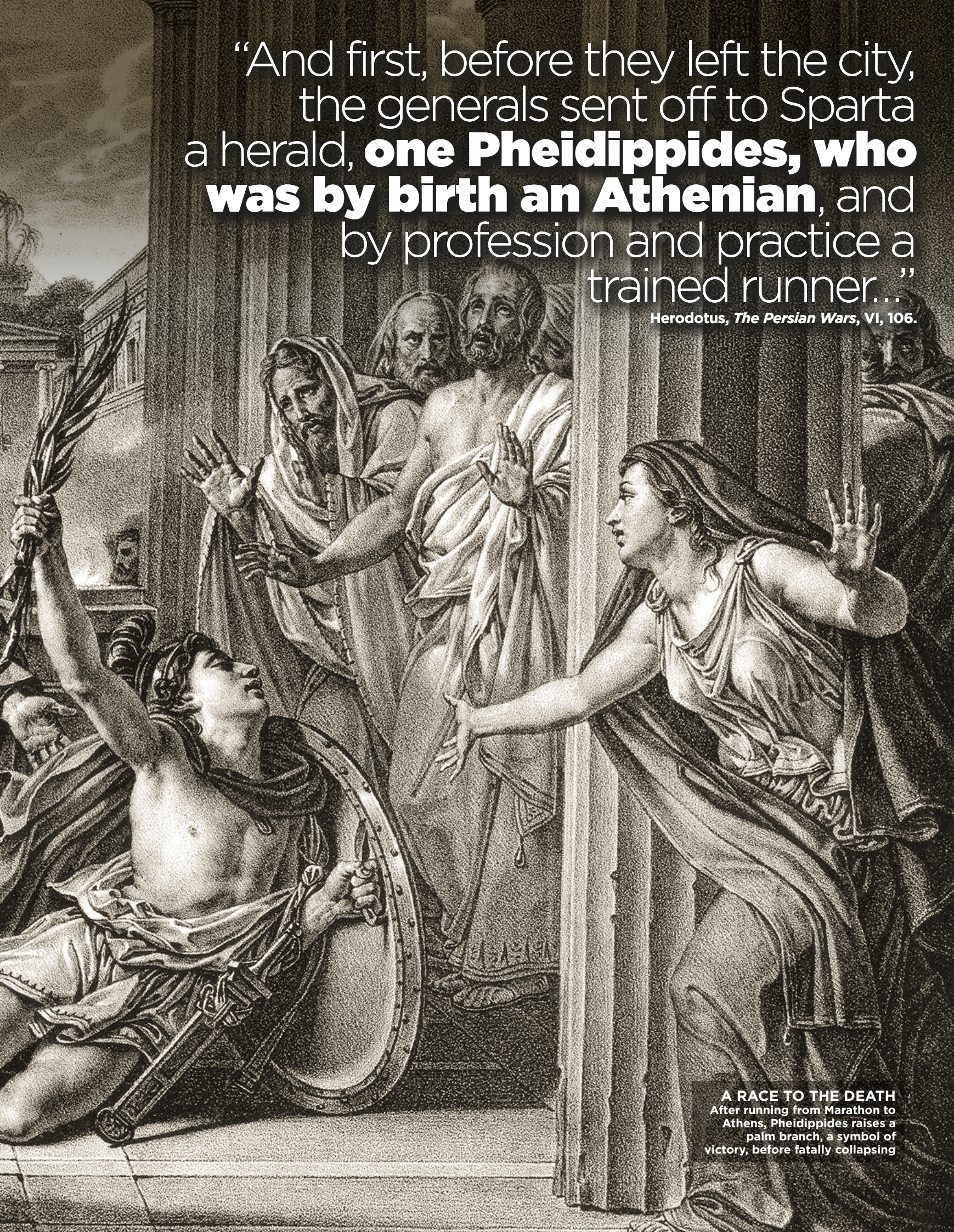


PHEIDIPPIDES: THE ORIGINAL MARATHON MAN?

Every marathon run today recalls the feats of a heroic messenger in Ancient Greece, who ran not just 26 miles but 300 – in just three days. **Pat Kinsella** tells his story

“And first, before they left the city,
the generals sent off to Sparta
a herald, **one Pheidippides, who
was by birth an Athenian**, and
by profession and practice a
trained runner...”

Herodotus, *The Persian Wars*, VI, 106.



A RACE TO THE DEATH
After running from Marathon to
Athens, Pheidippides raises a
palm branch, a symbol of
victory, before fatally collapsing

Mythologised by the writings of poets and historians, the alleged deeds of a fleet-footed messenger in Ancient Greece called Pheidippides inspired the creation of the world's most popular mass-participation running race format – the marathon. But how far did this athlete really run? And in which direction?

There are two stories associated with Pheidippides. He is most well known for being the character in Ancient Greece who is said to have run non-stop from a battlefield in Marathon to the citadel in Athens in 490 BC, bringing news of the Athenian army's victory over the Persians in battle, before dramatically dropping dead.

This tale, immortalised for the modern audience in Robert Browning's 1879 poem *Pheidippides*, inspired a member of the Olympic committee, Michel Bréal, to propose that the distance of the run between the battle site and the Greek capital should be used as the benchmark length for the inaugural marathon when it was launched at the first modern Olympics in 1896. And that is why, each year, thousands of people put themselves through 26.2 miles of hell in marathon-length running events all around the world. The actual distance between Marathon and Athens is closer to 25 miles, but the extra heartbreak mile became part of the official distance – 42.195km – at the 1908 Olympic Games in London. Here the course was extended, partly to ensure the race finished in front of the royal box.

Yet, the major source of information about this period, the Greek historian Herodotus, makes no mention of this run. Instead, Herodotus describes Pheidippides making a much longer journey prior to the battle, all the way to Sparta and back, a distance of more than 300 miles. It was an attempt to enlist extra military support ahead of the imminent conflict with the technically superior Persian invaders.

A number of writers have blended the two tales, claiming that Pheidippides did both runs and even took part in the battle in between; other scholars consider both stories to be apocryphal. Accounts of his heroic actions were already cloudy by the time they were first written about, some 50 years after the events were supposed to have taken place. Unsurprisingly, 2,500 intervening years have done little to separate fact from legend.

RUNNING MAN

Most historians agree that Pheidippides was a real person, born around 530 BC, who worked as an Athenian hemerodrome, meaning herald, messenger or courier. The word is variously translated as 'day-runner' or 'day-long runner', but essentially his primary role was to run long distances overland to convey important messages. In Ancient Greek society, a job such as this was often handed down from father to son. It was typically a young man's game, with most

THE MAIN PLAYERS



PHEIDIPPIDES

Athenian herald, a professional long-distance runner tasked with personally delivering highly important messages.



MILTIADES

One of 10 generals under Callimachus at the Battle of Marathon. Credited as the architect of tactics that led to the routing of the Persians.



KING DARIUS I

Ruler of Persia who wanted to subjugate Athens after the Athenians supported the Ionians in their attempt to overthrow Persian rule.

CALLIMACHUS

Polemarch (war-ruler) in charge of Athenian forces at Marathon.

HERODOTUS

Author of *Histories* (c440 BC), about the Greco-Persian Wars, compiled – it's believed – from first-hand accounts.

PAN

God with ability to cause fear and mayhem – hence the word 'panic'. Pheidippides believed he met Pan on his journey.

THERSIPPUS

Alternative herald named by Plutarch as the messenger who ran from Marathon to Athens.

RUNNING TO VICTORY

MAIN: The Athenians unexpectedly rout the Persians at the Battle of Marathon in 490 BC

BELOW: A Greek vase shows Pheidippides racing to Athens to let the people know its army is returning victorious and to make sure the city doesn't surrender in the meantime





“Herodotus describes Pheidippides **running from Athens to Sparta and back**”



6,000

The number of Persians slaughtered by the Athenians during the Battle of Marathon

MYTH AND MARATHON

ABOVE LEFT: The first modern-day marathon, at the 1896 Olympics in Athens

ABOVE: Did Pan appear to Pheidippides?

messengers being in their 20s. Pheidippides is described as an ‘expert’, however, and is generally thought to have been older, possibly in his 30s.

JOGGING WITH THE GODS

Herodotus, the principal historic source for the Greco-Persian Wars, describes Pheidippides (or Philippiades in some versions) running from Athens to Sparta and back again within the space of three days – an epic journey of some 300 miles. His mission was to rally support from the Spartans to help repel the Persian army, which was preparing to invade.

According to this account, barefooted and armed only with a short sword, he ran 1,140 stadia (around 153 miles or 246 kilometres) to Sparta in around 36 hours, travelling via Eleusis, the Gerania mountains, Isthmia, Examilia, Ancient Corinth, Ancient Nemea and the Parthenio mountain.

When he arrived, the Spartans were five days into a nine-day religious festival, the Carneia, during which they were forbidden to fight. They agreed to come to the assistance of their Greek brethren when it was over, but it would be a week or more before their feared hoplites (citizen soldiers) would be in battle position where the Athenians needed them. Pheidippides was forced to run back along the route he had just taken, alone and carrying a heavy load of bad news.

After his extraordinary feat of endurance, the runner reported an encounter with the god Pan on the slopes of Parthenio, somewhere above the precinct of Tegea. Pan demanded to know from the messenger why his people had been neglecting him, “though he was well disposed to the Athenians and had been serviceable to them on many occasions before that time, and would be so also yet again”.

For many modern scholars, this is where the tale comes off the rails as a historical account and veers directly into the field of myth and

legend. However, the encounter with Pan could be explained as a hallucination brought on by a mixture of heat and physical exhaustion. Modern-day endurance athletes often report such visions, known as sleepmonsters, which can be fantastically realistic.

Whether historians believe Pheidippides actually met with a god or not, the Ancient Greeks certainly gave it credence, evidenced by a shrine below the Acropolis dedicated to Pan, built soon after the Athenians' eventual victory over the Persians.

BATTLE OF MARATHON

On his return to Athens, Pheidippides delivered the terrible news that no imminent support could be expected from the Spartans. He then joined the rest of Athenian army to march from Athens to Marathon to attempt to hold off the large Persian forces massing just off shore.

The invaders brought an estimated 18,000–25,000 soldiers with them, including their much-feared cavalry. They vastly outnumbered the Athenians, who are believed to have had fewer than 10,000 men in their ranks. Yet, when fighting finally broke out after a tense five-day stand-off, it was the Athenians who emerged victorious, thanks to the superior tactics devised by Miltiades, one of ten generals operating under the polemarch (war-ruler) Callimachus.

After learning that the Persian cavalry was temporarily absent, Miltiades had managed to convince Callimachus to order a general attack against the enemy, before using reinforced flanks to lure the Persians' elite warriors into the centre, where they were overwhelmed. Breaking in panic, the Persians fled towards their ships, with large numbers killed as they retreated. The Spartans, who honoured their promise but arrived only after the fighting had finished, allegedly found some 6,000 Persians dead on the battlefield, while in comparison, the Athenian casualties were reported to be as low as 192.

With the Persians beaten back to their ships, the concern for the Greeks was that an attack would be launched on Athens itself, left defenceless while the fighting forces were in action at Marathon. To avoid this, immediately after the battle, which ended around noon, nine of the ten *phyla* (clans) power-marched back to Athens, a distance of around 25 miles, with armour and weapons at the ready. They are said to have arrived before nightfall. The tenth tribe, Antiochis, stayed behind under the command of Aristides 'the Just' to look after the spoils of war.

GOING SOLO

While Herodotus doesn't mention a solo runner going ahead of the main phalanx from Marathon to Athens, it is possible that a messenger was sent to inform the terrified citizens that the army was returning and to instruct them not to surrender.

UNLIKELY VICTORY

RIGHT: Thanks to General Miltiades, the Athenians defeated a superior force at Marathon
CENTRE: Present-day Sparta: in 490 BC, Pheidippides ran 300 miles there and back to get help
FAR RIGHT: US athlete Johnny Hayes, winner of the marathon at the 1908 Olympics in London, holds a statuette of Pheidippides

Given his earlier efforts, it is less likely that Pheidippides would have been given this task, although if he was, it might explain why the exhausted herald is reported to have dropped down dead on arrival in Athens. It seems more feasible that the latter part of the Pheidippides story was embellished over time to give an already heroic tale a touch more pathos – a narrative technique much loved by the Greeks.

Writing 500 years after Herodotus, the Greek scribe Plutarch, in his essay *On the Glory of Athens*, depicts a different messenger called Thersippus (or Eukles) making the run from Marathon to Athens. A century later, Greek satirist Lucian put Pheidippides's name in the frame for the same run. The stories have become blurred ever since, leading to the myth that remains popular to this day.

It seems Pheidippides is remembered for the wrong run – a much shorter journey, completed (no less heroically) by the entire fighting force of Athens – while his really staggering achievement, a 300-mile ultra-marathon that turned out to be a waste of time, has been largely forgotten.

Perhaps modern-day marathon runners should be grateful that the legend that grew up around shorter distance was the one that captured the imagination of the Olympic committee. Otherwise, they might be running more than 10 times the distance they do now. 📍

GET HOOKED

TRAVEL

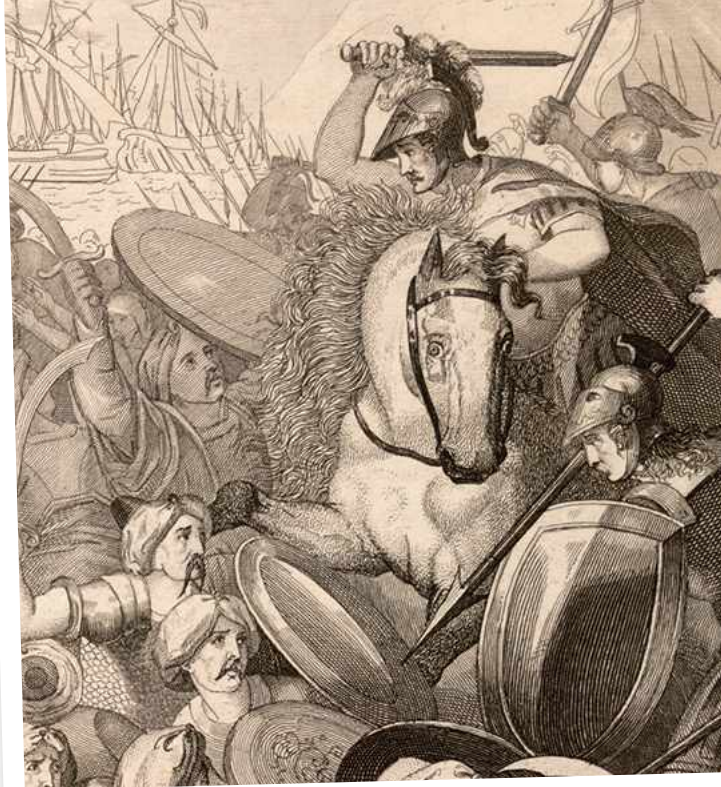
Run the Spartathlon, a 153m (246km) ultra-marathon between Athens and Sparta in honour of Pheidippides each year (www.spartathlon.gr). On the way, look out for his statue at Rafina.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Is it even physically possible to run 300 miles in three days? Let us know what you think...

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



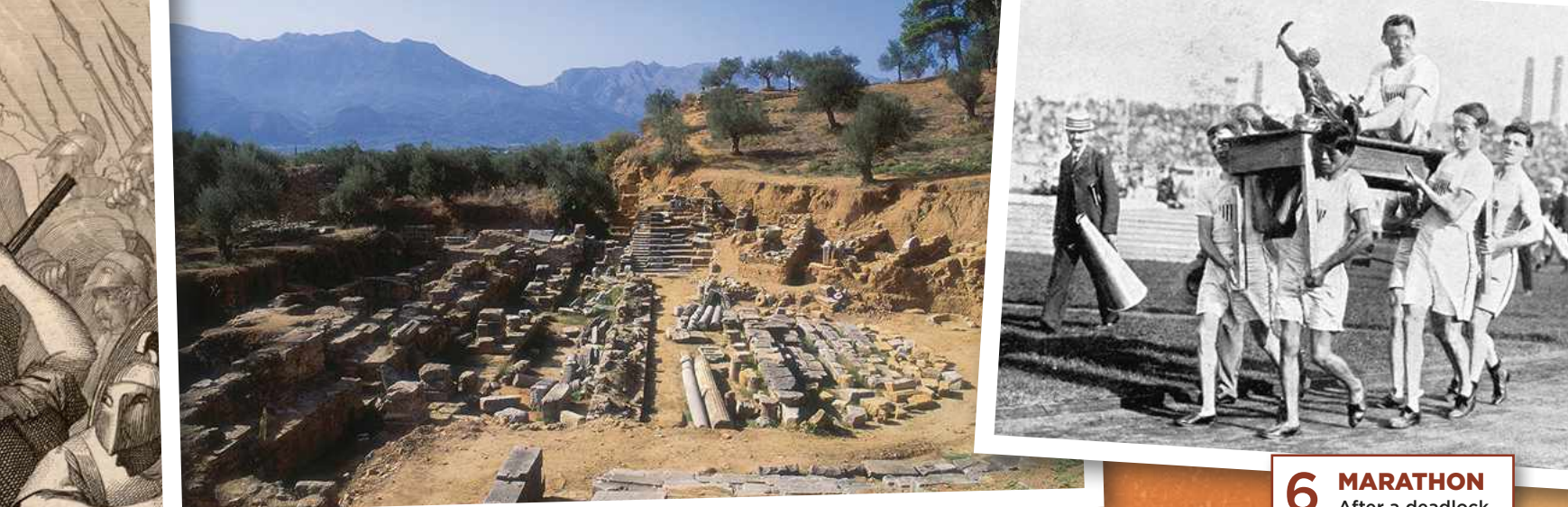
GEOGRAPHY

The messenger Pheidippides is most celebrated for his 25-mile run between Marathon and Athens. Even more impressive was his 300-mile traverse – in just three days – of the punishing Greek landscape, a run passing over mountain ranges while also detouring around territories not allied to the Athenians.



3 PARTHENIO MOUNTAIN

On this 1,200-metre mountain peak just above Ancient Tegea (now the village of Alea, close to Tripoli), Pheidippides has his apparent encounter with the god Pan, who laments that the Athenians failed to acknowledge him as much as they should. Following their subsequent victory over the Persians, the Athenians build a temple dedicated to the god.



2 NEMEA

Pheidippides traverses the mountains between Argolida and Arcadia, travelling through Isthmia, Examilia and Ancient Corinth, before arriving at Ancient Nemea. This carefully chosen route avoids the territory of Argos, which isn't in alliance with Athens.

1 ATHENS

Pheidippides takes the ancient Iera Odos (sacred road) up to Eleusis, from where he follows a military road, Skyronia Odos, across the flanks of the Gerania mountains.

ERETRIA

6 MARATHON

After a deadlock lasting five days, Athenian forces seize their best chance to take on the numerically superior invaders in the fennel fields, while the notorious Persian cavalry are temporarily absent. Using brilliant tactics, the Athenians achieve a huge victory.

MARATHON

ATHENS

5 ATHENS

Pheidippides returns by the same route, carrying the terrible news that the Athenians will have to face the forces of King Darius I alone. All the fighting men of Athens march to meet the enemy at Marathon.

7 ATHENS

Fearful of a secondary Persian attack on their defenceless city, nine of the ten tribes immediately march back to Athens from Marathon, covering a distance of 25 miles in full battle gear within one day.

PARTHENIO MOUNTAIN

SPARTA

4 SPARTA

Within 36 hours, Pheidippides has covered the 153 miles to reach the powerful city-state of Sparta, where hopes of enlisting extra military support are dashed by the discovery that they are observing a religious festival.

GREECE

-  PHEIDIPPIDES' OUTBOUND ROUTE
-  PHEIDIPPIDES' RETURN ROUTE
-  ATHENIANS' MARCH BACK TO ATHENS
-  PERSIAN ARMY ROUTE
-  ENCOUNTER WITH PAN
-  ATHENIAN VICTORY

History's top dogs

Most dogs just spend their days dreaming of bones. **Nige Tassell** nominates ten pooches that devoted themselves to somewhat nobler causes...

STAR QUALITY
Rin Tin Tin was an actor whose roles included Lobo in *Frozen River*, 1929



THE HOLLYWOOD A-LISTER

Rescued at just a week old from a World War I battlefield in France by a US soldier, Rin Tin Tin relocated to his owner's hometown of Los Angeles where he starred in 26 Hollywood movies. When the German Shepherd died in 1932, the announcement interrupted scheduled radio programming. In 1960, the dog was among the first movie actors to be awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame.

ALAMY X4, GETTY X3, CORBIS XI, PA XI

THE SPACE PIONEER

Laika, a three-year-old stray mongrel from the streets of Moscow, achieved immortality when she became the first living creature to be fired into space. Launched aboard Sputnik 2 in November 1957, she was originally thought to have died when her oxygen ran out six days into the voyage. The truth, though, is that she was likely to have perished from overheating within hours of lift-off.

ONE-WAY TICKET
Laika the Russian dog was the first living animal to go into space and was sacrificed in the name of space exploration



AN EAR FOR MUSIC

Nipper was a terrier from Bristol who, three years after his death in 1895, had his portrait posthumously painted by his last owner. The painting showed the mutt inquisitively looking into a gramophone horn, as if listening intently to the music being played. The painting was sold to The Gramophone Company who used it as the trademark of their His Master's Voice record label. Nipper remained part of the HMV logo for more than 100 years.



NAPOLEON'S CANINE COMRADE

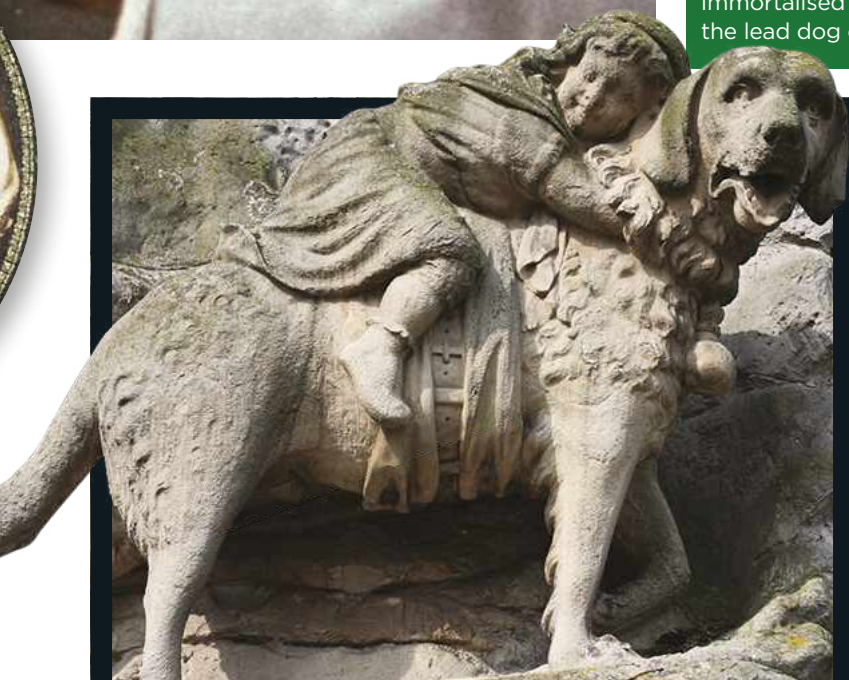
Although his story has almost certainly been embellished since his death, Moustache the French poodle definitely lived a life less ordinary. Born in the final year of the 18th century, he was adopted by a French grenadier regiment with whom he served during the French Revolutionary Wars. His commendable deeds included alerting his regiment to a surprise night attack by the enemy, along with discovering an Austrian spy hiding in the French camp. C'est magnifique!





BALTO THE BRAVE

In New York's Central Park is a statue of a Siberian husky, inscribed: "Dedicated to the indomitable spirit of the sled dogs that relayed antitoxin six hundred miles over rough ice, across treacherous waters, through Arctic blizzards". It recalls the winter of 1925 when a diphtheria epidemic threatened the Alaskan city of Nome. The only way for the serum to arrive in time was via multiple dog sled teams. Balto, the Siberian husky immortalised in bronze, was the lead dog on the last leg.



BARRY THE LIFESAVER

The legend of St Bernard dogs rescuing people stranded in the Swiss Alps gained worldwide attention thanks to the splendidly titled Barry der Menschenretter. Born in 1800, Barry is credited with saving as many as 40 lives during his 14-year career as a mountain rescue dog. These included a young boy stranded in an ice cavern whom Barry carried on his back all the way down to the Great St Bernard Hospice near the border with Italy.



EARNING HIS STRIPES

Bull terrier Stubby was adopted by the US 102nd Infantry and served in 17 World War I battles. Not just a mascot, he could sniff out mustard gas, while his superior hearing meant he forewarned about imminent artillery strikes. After catching a German spy, he was promoted to sergeant.

FOOTBALL HERO

The original football World Cup, the Jules Rimet trophy, was stolen in 1966, just four months before England was due to host the tournament. Cue the intervention of collie-cross Pickles, who came across the trophy by a South London hedge when his owner took him for his nightly constitutional. Pickles became an instant hero and signed up with the same showbiz agent as comedian Spike Milligan.



THE SAINTLY GUINEFORT

This 13th-century French greyhound saved the life of his master's son by killing a snake. Seeing blood on the dog, his master thought it had killed the baby and slew it - then found the baby asleep. A shrine was put up and locals venerated the dog as patron saint of infants, although the Catholic Church refused to recognise it.



THE ULTIMATE GUARD DOG

Probably the most famous dog in Scottish history, Greyfriars Bobby was a Skye Terrier belonging to John Gray, a nightwatchman for Edinburgh's police force. When Gray died from tuberculosis in 1858, Bobby guarded his grave for the next 14 years. In recent times, though, a historian has poured scorn on the story, believing 'Bobby' to have actually been two separate stray dogs.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Know any more famous dogs from history? Get in touch and let us know...

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



**BATTLEFIELD
BALACLAVA,
1854**

HEAVY DUTY

While the cavalry of the Light Brigade specialised in scouting and skirmishing, the **Heavy Brigade** was made up of red-coated Dragoons and Scots Greys trained to charge the enemy and smash a hole in their ranks.

Into the Valley of Death...

The Charge of the Light Brigade at the **Battle of Balaclava** has gone down in history as shorthand for doomed heroism and military incompetence. **Julian Humphrys** explains the significance of this chapter of the Crimean War

The main cause of the Crimean War was Russia's desire to carve up the European part of the Ottoman Empire, coupled with Britain and France's desire to prevent this from happening. Disputes between the Catholic and Orthodox churches over control of the religious sites in the Holy Land (which was then part of the Ottoman Empire) led Russia to demand in 1853 that the Orthodox Church in Turkey should be placed under Russian control. The Turks refused so, in



FORGOTTEN VICTORY

The successful assault by the British Heavy Cavalry at Balaclava has been **almost completely overshadowed** by the Charge of the Light Brigade that followed it.

MOUNTED ATTACK
The Heavy Brigade's charge, as recreated by Victorian military artist Henry Martens

MASSIVE ATTACK

Despite being heavily outnumbered, the British heavy cavalry wasted no time in **advancing to attack** and soon put their Russian foes to flight.

BATTLE CONTEXT

Who

c15,000 British, French and Turks (under the command of General Lord Raglan and General François Canrobert)
c25,000 Russians (General Pavel Liprandi)

When

25 October 1854

Where

Crimean peninsula (part of modern-day Ukraine)

Why

A Russian attempt to capture the vital British-held supply port of Balaclava

Outcome

Inconclusive. Overshadowed by the infamous Charge of the Light Brigade

Losses

Approximately 615 killed, wounded and missing on both sides

response, the Russians occupied the Turkish provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia (now Romania). The Turks declared war on the Russians but soon suffered a major naval defeat in the Black Sea.

This development worried France and Britain, who feared that if the ailing Ottoman Empire collapsed, it would leave a power vacuum in south-east Europe that the Russians would fill. So, in March 1854, they too declared war on Russia, sending armies to Varna on the Black Sea to support the Turks. However, that August, the Russians were defeated by

Turkey at Silistria on the Danube and, following diplomatic pressure from the Austrians who were also worried about Russian intentions, they pulled out of Moldavia and Wallachia. There was now little point for the British and French to remain at Varna but, influenced by public opinion at home, the British government decided that the Russian naval base at Sevastopol in the Crimea should be attacked instead. The French agreed and, on 14 September 1854, the two armies (which were already suffering from cholera) landed in the Crimea at the ominously named Calamita Bay.

Six days later, the Allies defeated a Russian attempt to stop them advancing south towards Sevastopol at the river Alma. They then decided against a direct assault on Sevastopol, instead opting to skirt around the city to besiege it from the south and west. The French forces established themselves at the harbour at Kamiesch to the south-west of the city, while the British were based at Balaclava harbour to the south-east. Meanwhile, the Russians hovered to the east, steadily receiving reinforcements. On 25 October, a large Russian force



“Decisive action could have completed the British victory, but Lord Cardigan did not attack”

◀ suddenly attacked, hoping to break through and capture Balacava.

At first, all went to plan for the Russians. The main road leading from near Balacava to the British siege lines outside Sevastopol was overlooked by an area of high ground known as the Causeway Heights. The Allies had built a series of earth forts or redoubts there, defended by Turkish soldiers and equipped with British naval cannon. These Turks bore the initial brunt of the Russian attack. They put up a spirited defence but were eventually driven out of the redoubts, abandoning the cannon to the Russians, whose cavalry began to stream into the valley south of the Causeway Heights.

STOUT DEFENCE

Between 400 and 800 Russian cavalry headed straight for Balacava itself. All that stood between them and the port were some marines, a few Turks and 500 men, mainly from the 93rd Highlanders under the command of Sir Colin Campbell, a grizzled veteran with more than 40 years' military service. The usual tactic for an infantry unit threatened by cavalry was to form a square so that the men were safe from attack from any direction, but Campbell

didn't worry about that. Instead, he formed his men into a two-deep line, trusting in their firepower to see off the Russians. His faith in his men was well-founded. The kilted Highlanders held firm and fired two long-range volleys at the Russians, who turned aside and retreated. The *Times* reporter WH Russell later

described the Highlanders as “a thin red streak tipped with a line of steel [their bayonets]”.

This was the origin of the term ‘the thin red line’ used to describe British infantry in general.

Meanwhile, a larger force of about 2,000 Russian cavalry was also assembling. Realising that they were halted and were therefore vulnerable to attack, Brigadier-General Scarlett, the commander of the British heavy cavalry brigade, seized his chance and led all the cavalry he had to hand, initially just 300 men, against the Russians. They were soon surrounded by masses of enemy cavalry but, as the rest of the Heavy Brigade arrived and joined the fray, the Russians were routed. Decisive action at this stage could have completed the British victory but, believing his orders ▶

80

The percentage of the 22,000 British fatalities in the Crimean War who died from disease

THE BATTLE OF BALACLAVA

A major action in the 28-month Crimean War, the battle saw an unsuccessful Russian attempt to capture the supply port of Balacava from the British. The battle is best known for the disastrous Charge of the Light Brigade when miscommunication between British generals led to heavy losses

FLASHING BLADE

The Light Dragoons and Hussars of the British light cavalry were equipped with curved sabres, ideal for cutting and slashing.

WRONG GUNS

Instead of rescuing the British cannons that the Russians had captured, the Light Brigade charged a Russian gun battery at the end of the valley.

NO ESCAPE

The Russians who remained guarding their guns were cut down by the troopers of the Light Brigade.

CALL TO ARMS

This ill-phrased order from Lord Raglan, commander of the British troops in the Crimea, demanded his cavalry to advance with “immediate” effect.

BADGE OF HONOUR

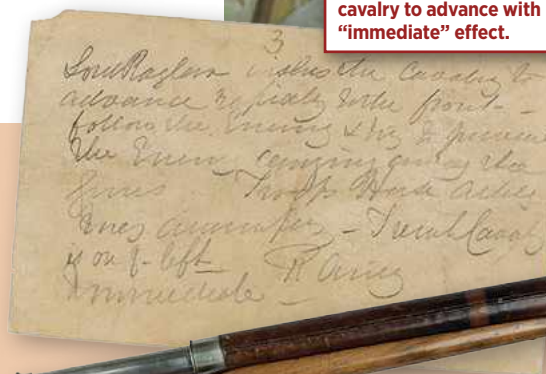
The Crimean War Medal of Private Robert Owen Glendwr, who was badly wounded in the Charge of the Light Brigade.

SIGHT LINES

Mounted on a skeleton rifle stock, this telescope was specially designed for Lord Raglan, who had lost an arm at Waterloo.

PRIZED OBJECTS

The British were only able to cobble together about 26,000 men to send to the Crimea, many of whom were inexperienced or raw recruits. The French supplied a larger contingent and, because they had recently fought a 20-year war in Algeria, many of their soldiers had experience of combat. Tsar Nicholas I of Russia had huge reserves of manpower. His soldiers were brutally disciplined and most were equipped with weapons deemed obsolete by British and French standards.



HEIGHT OF FASHION

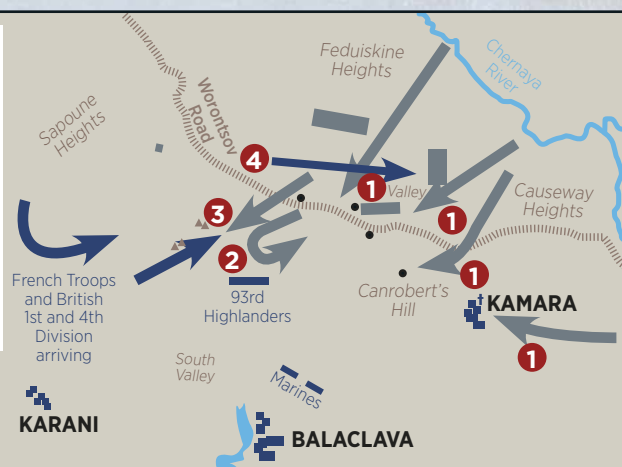
The British Hussars wore ornate Hungarian-style uniforms, but these gave way to more practical forms of dress as the war progressed.

COUNTER ATTACK

No sooner had the Light Brigade reached the Russian guns than they were charged by the Russian cavalry who had been deployed behind them.

KEY
 ■ Russians
 ■ Allies
 — Road
 ● Redoubts

1 Russians capture Turkish Redoubts
 2 The 'Thin Red Line'
 3 Charge of the Heavy Brigade
 4 Charge of the Light Brigade



POLISH STYLE

British light cavalry regiments were dressed in blue. The lancers wore Polish-style uniforms.

GET THE POINT

The pennant on the end of the 2.75m lance was originally intended to flutter and distract enemy horses.

INNOCENT VICTIMS

More than two-thirds of the Light Brigade's horses were lost in the charge.

IN FULL PLUME

The helmet worn by Major William Forrest at Balaclava. "The brass pot stood well," he would later declare.

TOP BRASS

The bugle believed to have been used by Trumpet-Major Henry Joy to sound the charge for the Heavy Brigade.

WAR REPORTER

William Howard Russell is widely seen as one of the world's first war correspondents. Published in *The Times*, his reports from the Crimea highlighted British gallantry, as well as drawing attention to the sufferings of the ordinary British soldier and were highly critical of British military organisation. For the first time, the public could read about the grim reality of warfare. Russell's writings not only contributed to the sending of Florence Nightingale and her nurses to the military hospital at Scutari, but were also an important factor in the fall of Lord Aberdeen's government in January 1855.

EYES AND EARS
 Russell's dispatches from the front line kept the public informed



BATTLEFIELD BALACLAVA, 1854

were to stay put, Lord Cardigan, the commander of the British Light Cavalry Brigade, did not attack. This allowed the battered Russian cavalry to fall back behind a gun battery at the far end of a valley north of the Causeway Heights.

Watching the battle from high ground to the west, Lord Raglan and his staff then saw that the Russians on the Causeway Heights were preparing to tow away the British guns they'd captured earlier. Anxious to prevent this, Raglan hurriedly dictated an order for his cavalry. The written order, which still survives today, reads "Lord Raglan wishes the cavalry to advance rapidly to the front, follow the enemy & try to prevent the enemy carrying away the guns. Troop horse artillery may accompany. French cavalry is on your left. Immediate."

In theory, this was an ideal task for the fast-moving British light cavalry. The problem, though, was that while Raglan and his staff had a clear view of what was happening, the lie of the land prevented Lord Lucan and his

cavalry commanders from seeing what was going on. The only guns they could see were the gun battery in the valley north of the Causeway Heights. When Lucan asked Captain Nolan, the staff officer who brought him the order, which guns Raglan was referring to, Nolan

is said to have dismissively waved his arm towards the Russians saying "There, my Lord, is your enemy. There are your guns!" The stage was set for the most controversial cavalry charge in British military history.

Pointing out the Russian guns at the end of the valley, Lucan ordered Cardigan to lead the attack; the Heavy Brigade would follow in support. Cardigan protested that the sides of the valley were also lined with Russian troops,

but Lucan replied he'd received an order that had to be obeyed. So, with Cardigan at their head, the Lancers, Hussars and Light Dragoons of the Light Brigade set off into what later became known as the Valley of Death. The first casualty was Nolan. The Brigade had barely broken into a trot when he galloped to the front, shouting

"The most controversial cavalry charge in British history"

113

The number of men from the Light Brigade who died in the charge. A further 134 were wounded

INTO THE VALLEY OF DEATH

**'Half a league, half a league
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred'**

Written by poet laureate Alfred, Lord Tennyson a few weeks after the battle, *The Charge of the Light Brigade* is one of Britain's best-known poems. What is less well-known is that, a quarter of a century later, in order to raise money for Crimean veterans, Tennyson wrote a second poem *The Charge of the Heavy Brigade*. The dramatic events of October 1854 continue to inspire writers of all kinds – even the lyrics of Iron Maiden's 1983 heavy metal classic *The Trooper* talk of the Charge of the Light Brigade.

wildly. Whether he was trying to hurry the Brigade on, or had realised that it was going in the wrong direction, will never be known. At that moment, a shell burst nearby, killing him instantly.

WHISTLING BULLETS

The Brigade gathered pace as it rode into a storm of shot and shell. Men and horses were falling on all sides and the Russian bullets made such a noise as they whistled about that one survivor said it was like putting your head into a hive of bees. Despite the odds stacked against them, the Light Brigade reached the guns, where they speared and sabred the Russian gunners and

initially pushed back the Russian cavalry behind them. But they were hopelessly outnumbered and, because General Scarlett had refused to let the Heavy Brigade follow the Light Brigade into what was clearly a death trap, they were also without support.

Having fought its way down the valley, the Light Brigade had to fight its way back, again under fire. Even worse, large numbers of Russian cavalry had ridden behind them to cut off their retreat. That any made it back at all was largely thanks to some French cavalry who, in a well-executed charge, cleared the Russians from the north side of the valley. As the exhausted survivors of the Light Brigade trickled back into the British lines, the battle petered out – and the recriminations began. 📍

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The repercussions of the Battle of Balaclava

The Russians had failed to take Balaclava, but they did now control the road from the port to Sevastopol, which made supplying the British forces besieging the city during the terrible winter that followed even harder. Of the 673 men who took part in the Charge, about 260 had been killed or wounded, while 475 horses had been lost. Only 195 men remained mounted after the battle. The Heavy Brigade had suffered 92 casualties. On

5 November, the Russians attempted to raise the siege of Sevastopol with a major attack at Inkerman. This was beaten back and the siege dragged on. After an unsuccessful assault on 18 June 1855 (the 40th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo), the port was finally captured on 9 September. Meanwhile, the Royal Navy was conducting naval operations against the Russians in the Baltic and,



HOME STRETCH
4th Light Dragoons officers
a month before the ceasefire

when the Austrians threatened to enter the war against them, the Russians agreed to peace terms. The Treaty of Paris was signed in March 1856 and the Russian threat to south-east Europe had been halted.

GET HOOKED!

Find out more about the battle and those involved

FILM

The Charge of the Light Brigade (1968), starring Trevor Howard and John Gielgud, is the best-known film of the battle.

MUSEUM

Currently being refurbished, Chelsea's National Army Museum is a treasure house of Crimean War relics.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What difference to the Crimean War did the Charge of the Light Brigade make?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

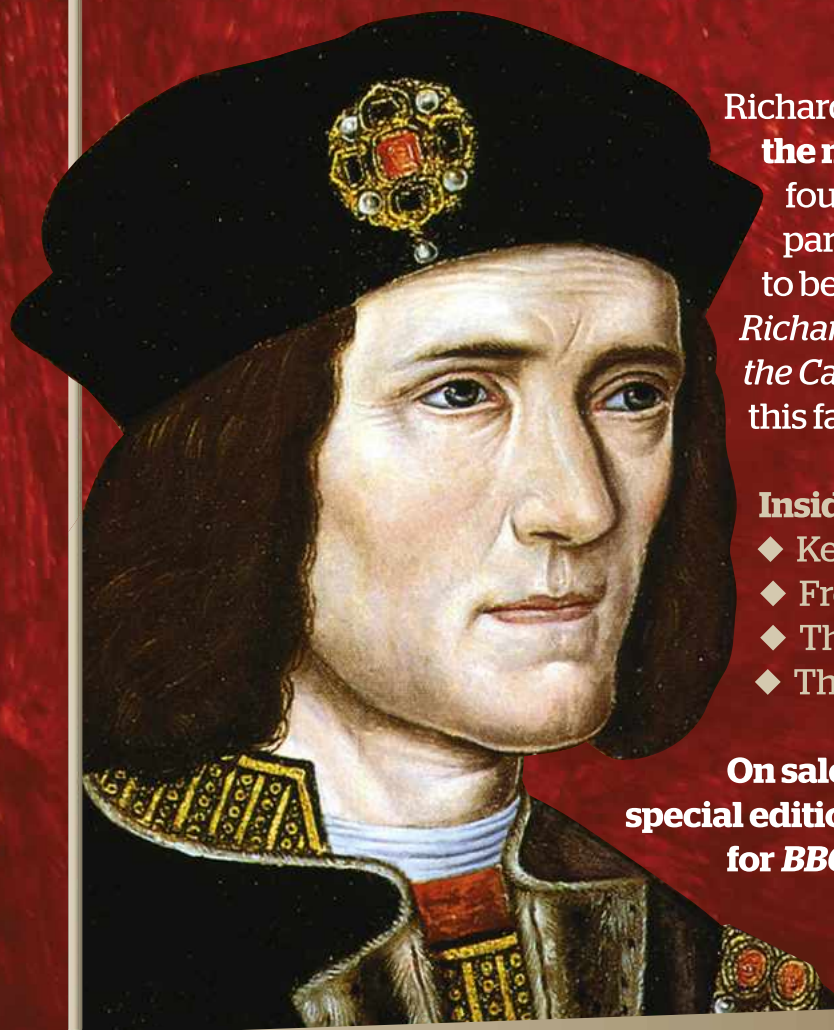
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MAGAZINE

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Apollo 13

Jonny Wilkes explains how NASA turned what could have been the worst tragedy in its history into its finest hour

The masterly space drama *Apollo 13* opens on a historic night for NASA and human history: 20 July 1969. Among the millions glued to their televisions to watch Neil Armstrong walk on the Moon was fellow astronaut Jim Lovell (played in the 1995 blockbuster by Tom Hanks).

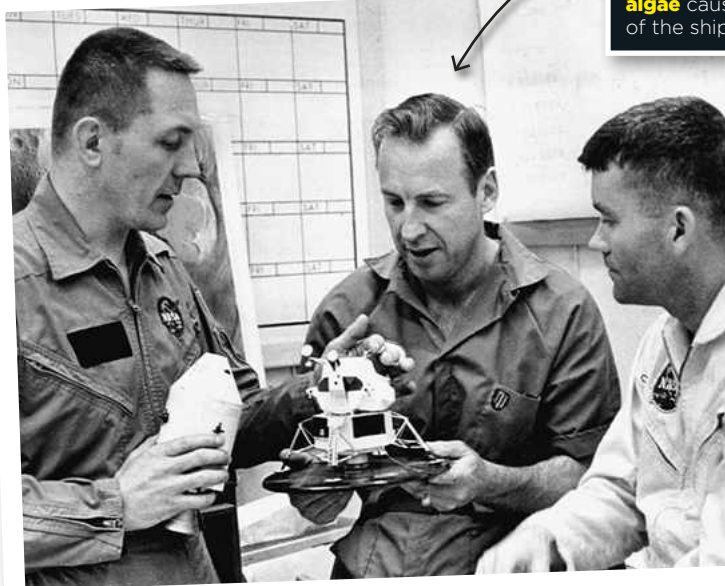
Lovell was Armstrong's backup and had gone into space three times – twice in the Gemini programme, as well as orbiting the Moon with Apollo 8. What happened nearly nine months on from that one small step changed his life and will be remembered as a tale of heroism in the face of overwhelming odds.

UNLUCKY LAUNCH

Apollo 13 is hailed for its accuracy. So cinematic was the real-life mission that when director Ron Howard called for feedback after the premiere, one person said they found the plot implausible, unaware it was based on a real event.

The mission was high on drama from early on. Commander Alan Shepard had been deemed unprepared, so his whole crew was replaced with Fred Haise, Ken Mattingly and Lovell as Commander. Further disruption hit before launch when Mattingly was grounded for fear he had been exposed to German measles, John 'Jack' Swigert taking his place.

NASA scheduled the eight-day flight to launch at 1.13pm, (as an intentional slight to superstitious spectators) on 11 April 1970. Once in space, Apollo 13 comprised a Command Module to house the crew for re-entry, plus a Service Module containing consumables and equipment; together known as Odyssey. This Service Module carried the Lunar Module, named Aquarius. Under the experienced eye of Flight Director Gene Kranz, the first 55 hours were smooth. One console controller in Houston even remarked to Lovell: "The spacecraft is in real good shape as far as we are concerned. We're bored to tears down here". The boredom didn't last. In fact,



THE FACTS

Release date: 1995

Director:

Ron Howard

Cast: Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon, Bill Paxton, Ed Harris, Gary Sinise, Kathleen Quinlan

everyone at Mission Control would barely sleep for the next five days.

The mission was about 200,000 miles and nearly 56 hours from Earth when Swigert stirred the oxygen tanks, a routine procedure requiring just a flick of a switch – but it set off a chain of events that, 93 seconds later, sparked an explosion. Odyssey's control panel lit up with flashing warning lights and Lovell was horrified to see that two fuel cells were lost and an oxygen tank already registered as empty.

MISSION ABORT

It is at this point in *Apollo 13* that Lovell utters the immortal line, "Houston, we have a problem" but that isn't exactly what happened. Swigert was first on the radio, when he said, "Houston, *we've* had a problem". It's still a remarkable understatement but may imply he believed the worst was behind them.

Around 13 minutes after the explosion, Lovell noticed that the stricken Odyssey was venting gas into space. The event had critically damaged the Service Module. Oxygen was leaking and the only way to stop it was to shut the reactant valves

FINDING A WAY HOME

In the film, Lovell tells a story of his time in the Navy, based on an actual event. He once got lost over the sea near Japan and his plane's instruments failed but he managed to locate his ship and land safely by following a luminous trail of algae caused by the churning of the ship's propellers.

"Gentlemen, it's been a privilege flying with you"

LEFT: The final line-up for the Apollo 13 mission the day before the launch: Swigert, left, Lovell and Haise. This crew only got their (un)lucky chance when the original commander was deemed unprepared – resulting in the entire first crew being replaced

to the fuel cells. Doing this meant abandoning the Moon landing. This was a decision everyone was reluctant to make but, seeing no other option, Kranz aborted the mission – a moment beautifully captured in *Apollo 13* as a despondent Lovell says, "We've lost the Moon". The crew were ordered to power down Odyssey and retreat to its attached Lunar Module Aquarius. Designed to travel from the spacecraft in lunar orbit to the surface of the Moon and back, it now became their lifeboat home.

The immediate task was to determine if there were enough supplies. Aquarius was built for a 45-hour trip with two people but now it had to house three for 90 hours. To conserve power, non-essential equipment was switched off,



“Lovell was horrified to see that two fuel cells were lost and an oxygen tank already registered as empty”

AGE OF AQUARIUS

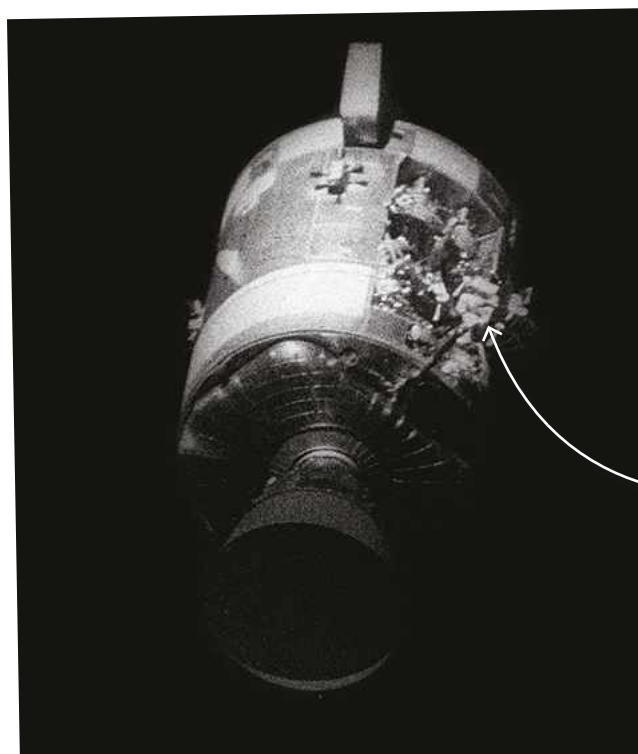
Throughout *Apollo 13*, Fred Haise is shown listening to music on a small cassette player, but they miss out one of the songs he actually took with him – **Age of Aquarius** by **The 5th Dimension** in honour of their lunar module.

“Houston, we have a problem...”

ABOVE: Actors Tom Hanks (Lovell), Bill Paxton (Haise, right) and Kevin Bacon (Swigert, top) in the Command Module

RIGHT: The true extent of the damage to the Service Module became obvious when the crew watched as it was ejected from the Command Module prior to re-entry: one panel was missing and wreckage was hanging out

FAR RIGHT: In the film, the crew photograph the crippled service module to record the damage for NASA's investigation



CRIPPLED SPACECRAFT

After the mission, an investigation would find that the explosion was caused because **a tiny component of the oxygen tank** wasn't updated to new specifications – over two years before the mission's launch.



SAY NO TO FAILURE

Kranz is famed for his flat top haircut and the saying **"Failure is not an option"**, which has passed into popular culture. In fact he never said it: the phrase was invented by screenwriter Bill Broyles to sum up the NASA spirit and given to Ed Harris (Kranz) to say in the film.

"We've never lost an American in space, we're sure as hell not gonna lose one on my watch! Failure is not an option"

ABOVE: A tense team of astronauts and flight controllers, part of a team that worked round the clock, monitors the mission as the crew attempt to get home
RIGHT: Ed Harris as Gene Kranz, the NASA flight director who led the team



meaning the module couldn't be heated. As the temperature fell, the crew found it impossible to sleep and food was often inedible as it froze.

On the ground, Kranz decided that instead of heading straight for Earth, they would slingshot the ship around the Moon, building speed without using precious fuel. There were still two problems that needed drastic solutions. First, carbon dioxide was building rapidly in Aquarius – there were plenty of lithium hydroxide canisters to remove it but they were for the crippled Odyssey's square sockets, not Aquarius's circle ones. An ingenious, if hotchpotch, device was constructed using plastic bags, cardboard, tape and the hose from a space suit.

The second problem was re-entering Earth's atmosphere. Odyssey needed power but now could use no more than 12 amps without damaging its systems. According to Flight Controller John Aaron, that was enough to run a coffee

machine. Planning re-entry under these conditions could take three months. Aaron and his engineers had three days. Mattingly (who never developed the measles) assisted in formulating the new start-up procedure, but wasn't the key figure as portrayed in the film. It was Aaron who was the "steely eyed missile man" – one of the highest compliments a NASA employee can receive.

While Mission Control toiled without rest, the world waited for news and Lovell, Haise and Swigert struggled with cold, hunger and dehydration. They cut their daily water intake to 20 per cent, causing Lovell to lose 6kg, and Haise caught a nasty infection. Swigert, while physically holding up, was mentally struggling. He became so paranoid that he would inadvertently jettison Aquarius with the other two inside while he was working in Odyssey,

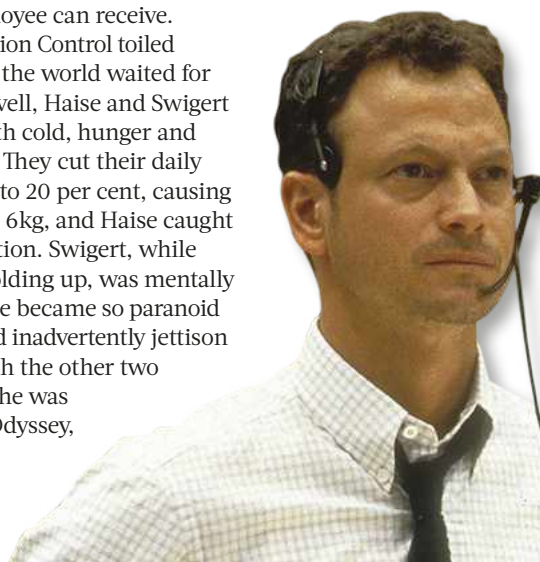
that he taped a note over the relevant switch with 'NO!' written on it.

On the way back, it was necessary to do several engine burns to put them on the right trajectory – only one is shown in *Apollo 13*. The last burn was to ensure the module didn't enter Earth's atmosphere too steeply, which would have meant instant death, or too shallowly, which would have bounced it back into space.

Using Aaron's new procedure, Odyssey was powered up and prepared for re-entry. Aquarius and then the Service Module were jettisoned, giving the crew a chance to see the damage from

LUCKY ESCAPE

Robbed of the chance to go on *Apollo 13*, Ken Mattingly (Gary Sinise) played a role in efforts to save his friends – but was not as central a figure as the film suggests



“From this moment on we are improvising a new mission: How do we get our people home?”

BELOW: A NASA shot inside the Lunar Module, with Swigert (right) rigging up the life support apparatus made necessary when the crew retreated from the Command Module
RIGHT: Lovell's wife Marilyn, with children Jeffrey and Barbara, could only sit and watch as the drama unfolded on television, while friends gathered in support
BELOW RIGHT: The news they'd waited for: the crew splash down safely



LIFE SAVING FIX

Experts at Mission Control worked for hours to devise this 'mailbox', a fix that the crew rigged up to prevent them dying of carbon dioxide poisoning in the tiny Lunar Module.

outside for the first time. They took photographs vital to evaluating what caused the explosion. Five days and 22 hours after taking off, Apollo 13 began its return to Earth.

BACK TO EARTH

There was concern the heat shield would crack after going from freezing cold to blistering hot, but it held. There was also concern the condensation would fry the circuits, but, again, the circuits held. There was concern too that the landing site would be in the middle of a typhoon, but the weather held. And there was a concern the parachutes would fail to open properly, but, miraculously, they did open.

A re-entry was normally followed by four minutes of radio silence as the Command Module entered the atmosphere. Apollo 13's blackout lasted an agonising six, while the world waited with bated breath. The mission clock

read 142:54:41 when Apollo 13 finally splashed down in the Pacific Ocean on 17 April, before the bedraggled crew was scooped up by the USS *Iwo Jima*.

Dubbed the 'successful failure', the mission faced innumerable obstacles, every one of which could have led to the deaths of three astronauts. Instead, Lovell, Haise and Swigert returned safely thanks to the tireless work of Kranz and everyone at Mission Control.

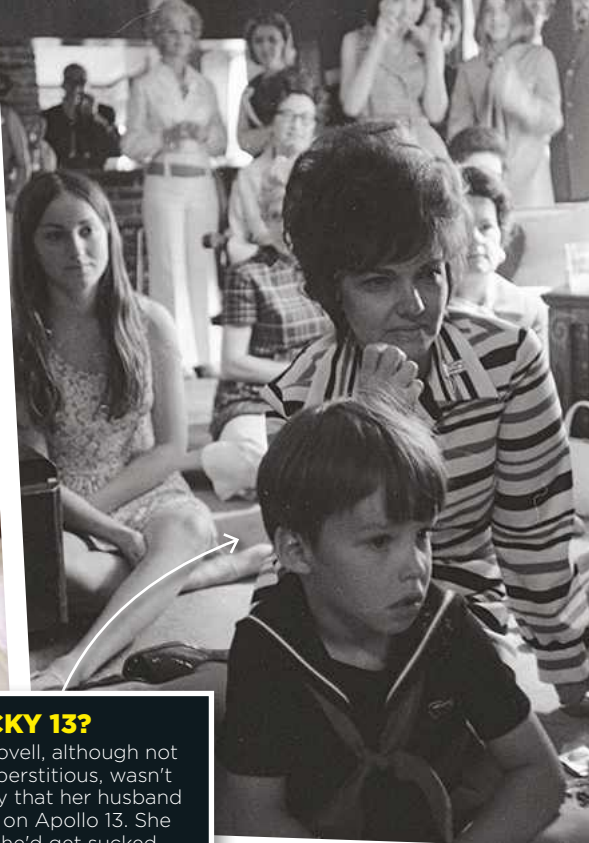
Howard's thrilling space odyssey *Apollo 13* is a fitting tribute to a remarkable chapter in humankind's quest to journey into space – no matter the risks – as well as its ability to overcome what seem to be insurmountable problems. 🎯



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

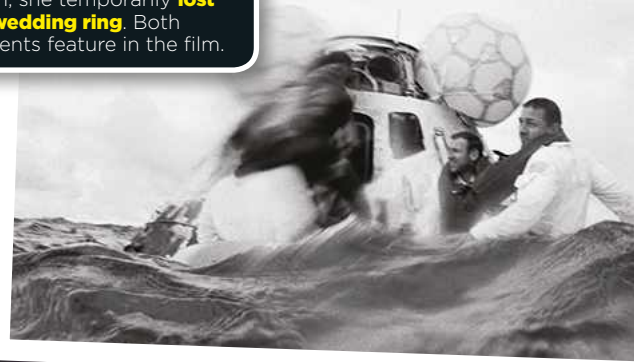
How would the space programme have been different had NASA failed to save the astronauts?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



UNLUCKY 13?

Marilyn Lovell, although not overly superstitious, wasn't too happy that her husband would fly on Apollo 13. She dreamed he'd get sucked into space and, in another ill omen, she temporarily **lost her wedding ring**. Both incidents feature in the film.



Ones to watch: Apollo programme

Marooned

(John Sturges, 1969)
A gripping tale of three astronauts stranded in space, *Marooned* (right) gave Marilyn Lovell bad dreams before Apollo 13.

The Right Stuff

(Philip Kaufman, 1983)
Ed Harris as one of the Mercury Seven, in the first attempt at manned spaceflight by the US.

For All Mankind

(Al Reinert, 1989)
Jim Lovell helps narrate



The film that gave Lovell's wife Marilyn nightmares

this vivid and powerful documentary, compiled from hours of raw footage taken on every Apollo mission.

MISSION TIMELINE

11 RE-ENTRY 142:40:45

With the crew strapped in, Apollo 13 begins re-entry. They splashdown into the Pacific Ocean 12 minutes later, and are rescued by the USS *Iwo Jima*.

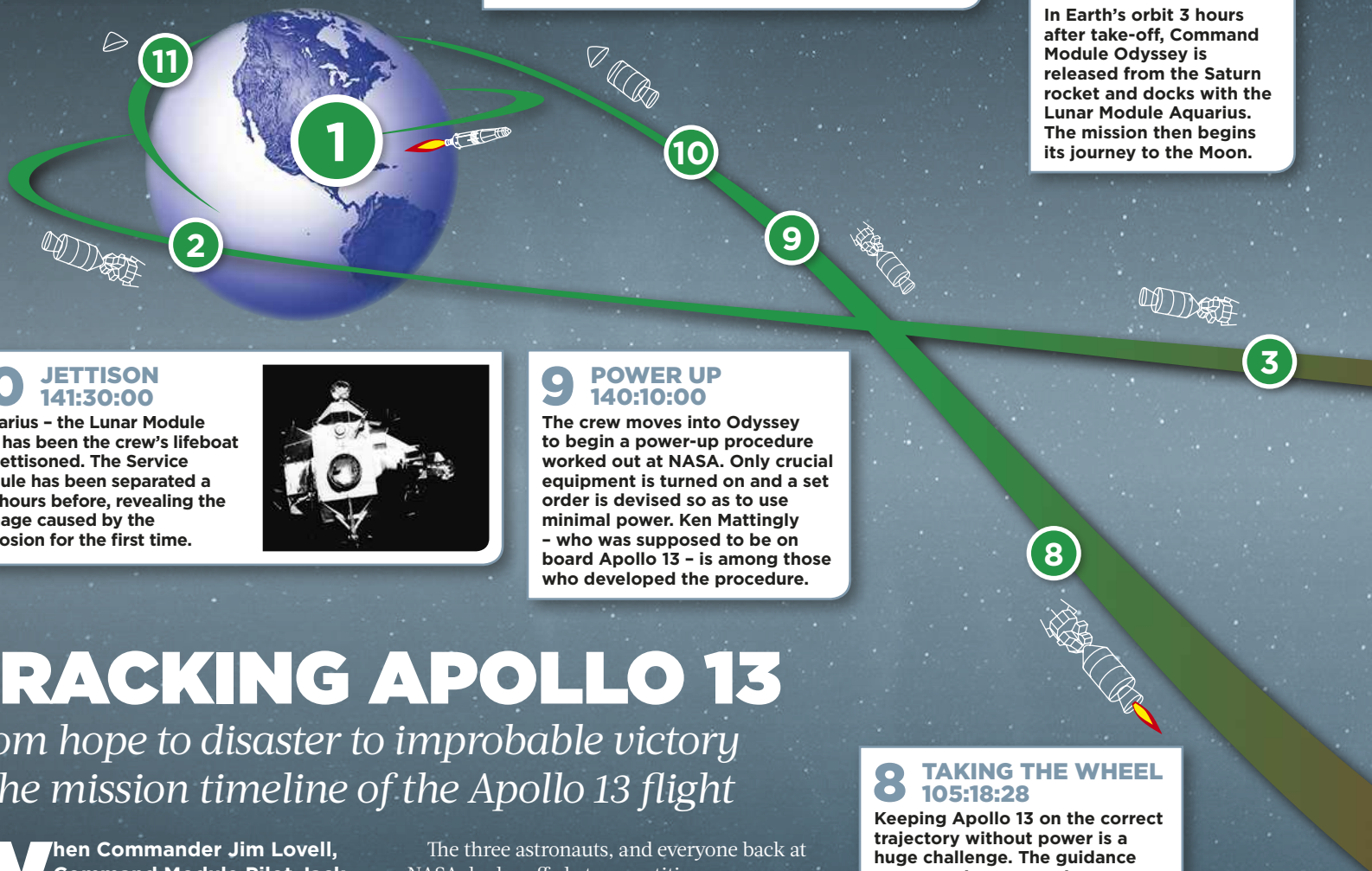
1 TAKE-OFF 00:00:00

Apollo 13 blasts off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. One of the five engines cuts out after 5 minutes, 30 seconds, so Mission Control decides to burn the four remaining engines longer to compensate for the fault.



2 DOCKING 03:19:08

In Earth's orbit 3 hours after take-off, Command Module Odyssey is released from the Saturn rocket and docks with the Lunar Module Aquarius. The mission then begins its journey to the Moon.



10 JETTISON 141:30:00

Aquarius - the Lunar Module that has been the crew's lifeboat - is jettisoned. The Service Module has been separated a few hours before, revealing the damage caused by the explosion for the first time.



9 POWER UP 140:10:00

The crew moves into Odyssey to begin a power-up procedure worked out at NASA. Only crucial equipment is turned on and a set order is devised so as to use minimal power. Ken Mattingly - who was supposed to be on board Apollo 13 - is among those who developed the procedure.

TRACKING APOLLO 13

*From hope to disaster to improbable victory
- the mission timeline of the Apollo 13 flight*

When Commander Jim Lovell, Command Module Pilot Jack Swigert and Lunar Module Pilot Fred Haise boarded Apollo 13 on 11 April 1970, they were preparing for the adventure of a lifetime - a trip to space and a chance to walk on the Moon.

The three astronauts, and everyone back at NASA, had scoffed at superstitious concern over the mission's number - even scheduling the launch to take place at 13:13. But when a minor mechanical fault caused an explosion in the spacecraft, destroying any hopes of landing on the Moon and endangering the lives of the crew, the mission clock was almost at 56 hours - making it 13 April at NASA headquarters in Houston.

Luck, it turned out, may not have been on the side of the Apollo 13 crew, but the controllers, technicians, engineers and analysts of

8 TAKING THE WHEEL 105:18:28

Keeping Apollo 13 on the correct trajectory without power is a huge challenge. The guidance computer isn't operating so when another engine burn is needed, Lovell has to navigate Odyssey using the Earth as a visual reference point.

Mission Control, as well as Flight Director Gene Kranz, certainly were. For four days, everyone worked without rest to solve each problem of how to keep the astronauts alive, and how to get them home.

All the while, Lovell, Swigert and Haise glided through space in the Lunar Module - now their lifeboat - not knowing if they would ever set foot on Earth again.

143

hours and 19 minutes
- the time that the
Apollo 13 crew were
sealed inside
the craft

SAFE AND SOUND
Fred Haise, Jim Lovell and Jack Swigert aboard the USS *Iwo Jima* after their ordeal



3 SMOOTH MISSION 46:43:00

The first two days of Apollo 13 go without major incident. While on duty, Capsule Communicator Joe Kerwin contacts Lovell, saying Mission Control is "bored to tears".



CREW CUT

The official crew shot shows Ken Mattingly (centre) who was replaced by Jack Swigert

KEN MATTINGLY

Ken Mattingly was removed from the Apollo 13 crew after the official crew photo was taken. He was considered at risk of contracting rubella. He, however, **never got ill**.

4 EXPLOSION 55:53:35

Swigert routinely stirs the oxygen tanks, which causes an explosion. After the crew hear the loud bang, they radio down to Mission Control and both Swigert and Lovell say "We've had a problem".



6 AROUND THE MOON 77:08:35

Apollo 13 orbits the Moon, meaning they temporarily lose communication with Mission Control. The crew stare down at the Moon's surface, including the Fra Mauro formation where Lovell and Haise would have landed.



5 CHANGING COURSE 61:29:43

With the Moon landing aborted and the crew now in Aquarius, having abandoned Odyssey, a burn of the engines is carried out to alter their course so they can slingshot around the Moon and be on a trajectory back to Earth.



7 ENGINE BURN 79:27:35

Using the gravity of the Moon to head back to Earth, Apollo 13 burns the engines for 4 minutes, 24 seconds. Meanwhile, the astronauts continue to combat severe tiredness, dehydration and low temperatures as the heating had been shut down. It is so cold, some of their food has frozen solid.



CLEARING THE AIR

While en route to Earth, Apollo 13's **carbon dioxide levels rose**, so a device had to be improvised to remove harmful gases from the ship's air.



THE HISTORY MAKERS
BOUDICCA





BOUDICCA: WARRIOR QUEEN

Jonny Wilkes unravels the myth of the Queen of the Iceni and discovers a leader who almost drove the Romans from Britain, leaving rivers of blood in her wake

FIERCE CELT
An imposing bronze statue of Boudicca on a chariot, with her daughters at her feet, stands near the Houses of Parliament, London

ALAMY X2



BEHIND BOUDICCA'S MYTHS...

We rely on two Roman historians, Tacitus and Cassius Dio, for nearly all of the information we have on the Iceni Queen Boudicca. Tacitus is the more reliable of the two – as a Roman Senator, he had access to archive material and his father-in-law held a senior military position in Britain at the time of the revolt. Cassius Dio, meanwhile, was writing over 100 years later and leant heavily on Tacitus's writings for his own account. How much of what we know of Boudicca can be trusted?

Standing on her wooden chariot, the Queen of the Iceni looks out to her enemy, statuesque in formation across the field. The Queen cannot completely hide the flicker of doubt and fear she feels looking at 10,000 disciplined and experienced Roman soldiers, strong behind their wall of shields. The foe has chosen its battleground well. The Romans have taken position in front of a dense wood so there is no chance of them being ambushed from behind. With trees on both sides as well, the field is narrow so the Queen's substantially larger numbers count for nothing.

But then Boudicca, the Iceni Queen, turns to the tens of thousands of warriors that have followed her to this battle – her undefeated army. Their faces are painted with patterns of blue woad to call upon the gods to instil them with strength and courage, their clenched fists punch the air, swords and spears clatter against shields and the cacophony of their battle cries is deafening as they eagerly await the order to charge. Having endured much at the hands of the invaders, now is the time for Boudicca's vengeance and to make the Romans regret that they ever came to Britain. With one last look at her frenzied warriors, Boudicca senses the

MYTH 1

HER FIERCE APPEARANCE

Boudicca is invariably depicted as a red-haired warrior clutching a spear. The only record of her look comes from Cassius Dio: "In stature she was very tall, in appearance most terrifying, in the glance of her eye most fierce, and her voice was harsh... a great mass of the tawniest hair fell to her hips, around her neck was a large golden necklace, and she wore a tunic of divers colours over which a thick mantle was fastened with a brooch."

blood lust growing within her, and she lets out a mighty roar.

Boudicca's revolt of AD 60 came close to driving the Romans out of Britain, only 17 years after the occupation began. But her actions, and her fate at the Battle of Watling Street, were forgotten for well over a millennium.

CRUELTY TO THE CELTS

If not for the unearthing of two Roman accounts during the Renaissance, we would know nearly nothing about Boudicca. How much of the works of historians Tacitus and Cassius Dio can be trusted is debatable – they wrote decades after Boudicca's death – but their discovery placed Boudicca back into history. Under the Victorians, she became a national symbol, hailed as a queen on a par with Victoria herself.

The story of why Boudicca waged war against the Romans begins in present-day Norfolk.



Since AD 43, when Claudius's conquest of Britain began, Boudicca's tribe, the Iceni, lived in relative peace with the invaders. Prasutagus, King of the Iceni and Boudicca's husband, signed a treaty, swearing his tribe's loyalty to Rome in return for remaining nominally independent. When he died in AD 60, however, the arrangement collapsed. Although Boudicca assumed leadership, the Romans refused to recognise the authority of a woman, and began plundering Iceni land of its valuables and people. But this, as Boudicca would discover, was only the beginning of Rome's insult.

A commanding woman of royal blood trained in fighting and chariot riding, the tall, flame-haired Boudicca is described by Dio: "She was huge of frame, terrifying of aspect, and with a harsh voice." When the Iceni fell victim to Roman brutality, she was outraged, but her appeals to the Roman Procurator, Catus Decianus, only made matters worse. As a potent act of Roman power, and complete humiliation for the Iceni, he reportedly had her flogged and her daughters raped.

Left bloodied, humiliated and burning with pure hatred, Boudicca was hell-bent on only one thing: retaliation. She quickly mobilised

WINSTON CHURCHILL,
ON BOUDICCA'S REVOLT
"Probably the most horrible episode
our island has known. We see the crude
and corrupt beginning of a higher
civilisation blotted out by the ferocious
uprising of the native tribes."





MYTH 3

WHAT HAPPENED AT WATLING STREET?

Both Tacitus and Cassius give accounts of Boudicca's disastrous last battle, but there are few clues as to where the fighting actually took place. Cassius Dio's claim that Boudicca led 230,000 warriors along with the assertion by Tacitus that only 400 Romans died, were most likely exaggerations to make the Roman victory look more impressive.

MYTH 2

FATE OF HER DAUGHTERS

According to Tacitus, the powerful Roman Catus Decianus had Boudicca flogged and her two daughters raped. Nothing else is known about them – from their involvement in their mother's revolt, what happened to them and even their names.

her warriors and even formed an alliance with the neighbouring Trinovantes, old enemies of the Iceni. Tens of thousands of men and women joined Boudicca as they marched the 50 miles to their first target, the Roman city of Camulodonum (now Colchester). Built as a supposed beacon of civilisation, the settlement was a symbol of oppression for Britons, not least because a new temple honouring Emperor Claudius was erected using money raised through enforced taxation. The city had no fortifications and few soldiers stationed to protect the inhabitants. The recently appointed Governor of Britain, a cruel and ambitious general named Gaius Suetonius Paulinus, was 350 miles away with the 14th and 20th Legions, squashing a druid rebellion on the Island of Mona in northern Wales.

Boudicca's revenge was fierce. Camulodonum was put to the torch and all Romans inside were butchered as her onslaught expunged all evidence that a city ever existed. Everything was

looted, every building destroyed and Romans were not only killed, but disembowelled. Even those taking refuge in the temple were locked inside and consumed by fire.

Boudicca had no time to enjoy her first victory, as a messenger from Camulodonum had made it to the 9th Legion, stationed to the north, pleading for assistance. Without understanding the scale of the revolt, 2,000 soldiers hastily marched to relieve the city only to be met by Boudicca's warriors, hidden in the trees at the side of the road. The 9th Legion was overwhelmed, with the infantry almost annihilated. Only a handful escaped. Boudicca saw how her army could take on highly disciplined Roman soldiers, and win.

Suetonius got word of the brutal attack on Camulodonum and rushed down the now-lost Roman road of Watling Street to Londinium (London), where he predicted Boudicca would

Boudicca saw how her army could take on highly disciplined Roman soldiers, and win.

strike next. His guess was accurate. Boudicca's forces made their way to the thriving port, packed with traders and precious loot. Basking in victory, they enjoyed the journey by pillaging small settlements, both Roman and Celtic, along the way. This gave Suetonius – who had ridden ahead of his soldiers – the time needed to reach Londinium. But like Camulodonum, the city was unfortified and ill defended. Suetonius couldn't wait for his main force to arrive, so he took the decision to abandon and evacuate

IN CONTEXT UNDER ROME

In AD 43, the Roman conquest of Britain began on the command of Emperor Claudius, although Romans had been forming trade links since the first expeditions of Julius Caesar 90 years earlier. A foothold was established and, gradually, the Romans progressed northwards, dealing with individual tribes as they went. The concept of 'Britain' didn't actually exist – there was no united country, rather a collection of warring Celtic tribes, each with their own language, culture and beliefs.

The Romans controlled a tribe in two ways: they either brought them into the fold using treaties, or forced obedience at the points of their swords. Boudicca's tribe, the Iceni in East Anglia, opted to sign a peace treaty and become a 'client kingdom'. In doing so, they maintained a degree of independence from Roman rule, while avoiding destruction at the hands of the Roman army. The peace lasted until the King of the Iceni Prasutagus, Boudicca's husband, died. He had hoped to prolong the peace by dividing his lands equally between the Emperor, now Nero, and his two daughters, but the Romans ignored his will.

Londinium and regroup. This meant leaving thousands helpless to Boudicca's wrath.

The city suffered a fate worse than Camulodonum. The people were mutilated and the entire city was torched until nothing remained standing – the inferno lasted days. To give an idea of how complete and merciless the destruction of Londinium was, evidence of Boudicca's attack can still be found in the earth of London today; dig deep enough and

you will find a thick layer of ash, all that Boudicca left of the old Londinium.

The flames of Boudicca's revolt continued to sweep across the southeast of England. Her forces raided a third city,

Verulamium (present-day St Albans), and more and more Britons joined the throngs. Having killed 80,000 people, both Roman and fellow Britons, when they prepared to meet Suetonius and his 10,000 soldiers somewhere along Watling Street, they felt invincible.

BATTLE COMMENCES

When the battle came – the site is unknown – the two armies could not have looked more different. On one side, Boudicca's anarchic,

“If you weigh well the strength of the armies, and the causes of the war, you will see that in this battle you must conquer or die. This is a woman’s resolve; as for men, they may live and be slaves.”

Boudicca



CELTIC CHAOS V ROMAN RESOLVE

Boudicca’s warriors had no armour or battle formation, whereas the Romans were disciplined, professional soldiers

BATTLE TACTICS

WHY THE ROMANS WON

The Battle of Watling Street may not have been as one-sided as the accounts of Tacitus and Cassius Dio implied, but the Romans secured an imperious victory through strict discipline and precision-execution of the army’s military tactics.

The Celtic warriors led by Boudicca had nothing in the way of armour and they used whatever weapons they could, whereas every one of the 10,000 Romans wore steel

armour – made of flexible strips to allow for manoeuvrability – and a helmet. Their sandals had nails on the soles so they didn’t slip in the mud. Armed with spears and short swords, the Romans had the advantage in equipment and skill, but there was always the chance that Boudicca’s greater numbers would overwhelm them.

But Roman discipline was resolute. Volleys of spears repelled Boudicca’s first

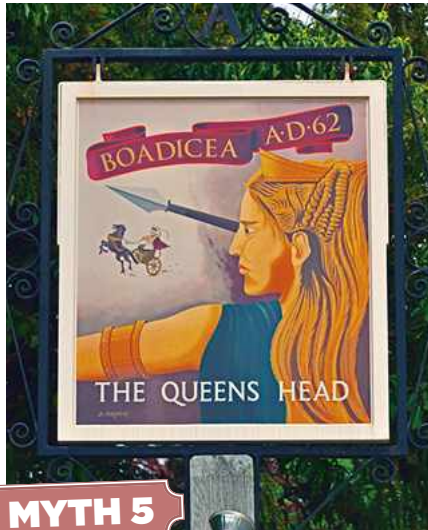
charge, and when the two opposing forces collided, the Roman shield wall was impenetrable. The masterstroke of Roman tactics then came into play – by continually rotating the soldiers on the front line of the formation, the Romans could last longer without tiring. Each soldier fought for a few minutes and was replaced by the next man. The Celts were powerless against such ruthless efficiency.



MYTH 4

THE QUEEN IS DEAD

On Boudicca's ultimate fate, the two Roman historians differ. Tacitus's account states that Boudicca, to avoid capture, took her own life by swallowing poison. This seems more plausible than Cassius Dio's account that she fell ill and died of natural causes as, after the battle, the Romans hunted down the surviving Iceni.



MYTH 5

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Over the centuries, the Iceni Queen has been called many things. Tacitus used 'Boudicca' - meaning 'victory' - but a poor translation of his work led to the use of the name 'Boadicea' and even 'Boudeg'.



MYTH 6

QUEEN'S FINAL RESTING PLACE AT KING'S CROSS

In his 1937 book *Boadicea: Warrior Queen of the Britons*, Lewis Spence suggested, with no substantial evidence, that the Battle of Watling Street was fought on land now under King's Cross station in London. There is no reason to believe Boudicca is buried there, but as the site of the battle is a mystery, the legend has grown.

noisy horde of painted tribesmen and women had no armour and most carried scavenged weapons. On the other, the silent ranks of armour-clad Roman soldiers moved as one unit. Suetonius was supremely confident his men had the technical advantage, but that did not stop doubt from spreading as they stared at the chaos across the plain.

Cassius Dio claimed that Boudicca led 230,000 warriors. The number is most likely exaggerated, but there is no question her force

swords. Wave after wave were cut down with little damage to the Roman line.

ROMAN ROUT

Content with his soldiers' defence, Suetonius ordered a great offensive push to finish off Boudicca's panicked and ever-reducing horde. He called for a wedge formation, an impenetrable human tank, which broke the last strand of resistance among the Britons. They turned to flee, but there was nowhere to go. At

The Romans advanced until bodies of both warriors and spectators littered the ground.

was significantly larger. Boudicca gave the signal and her chariots hurtled towards the Roman line, but her numbers counted for nothing as the trees on either side forced her warriors to bottleneck. They were instantly met by volleys of nearly 10,000 *pila*, or javelins, which caused havoc among the bare-skinned warriors. By the time the forces collided, Boudicca had already lost severe numbers, and things got worse when they tried to break through the Roman shield wall. Britons smashed into the large shields only to be halted and slashed by the Roman short

the time, carts full of a tribe's families and even cattle would commonly accompany warriors to battle so they could enjoy the carnage. These spectators lined the battlefield, making retreat impossible. The Romans continued their relentless advance until bodies of both warriors and spectators alike littered the ground. The result was a resounding victory for Suetonius and the shocking end of Boudicca's revolt. Tacitus claimed 80,000 Britons died, compared to just 400 Romans. Whatever the actual figures, the Battle of Watling Street was a bloodbath.

As for Boudicca, accounts differ. Dio wrote that she escaped and died later of illness, but Tacitus claimed she took poison to avoid capture, dying shortly after her humiliating defeat.

HERO OR VILLAIN

Boudicca and her revolt made Emperor Nero question Roman presence in Britain, but after it was quashed, the Romans improved their defences and treated the Britons far more warily. Their caution ensured that the invaders never faced such a threat again for the next 350 years.

To some, Boudicca was a noble leader who fought an oppressive, imperialist force, but to others, she was nothing more than a vicious savage willing to kill thousands in a personal vendetta. Her story's ability to divide people is summed up perfectly by the famous bronze statue of her erected in the Victorian era near the Houses of Parliament in London. With Boudicca on a large chariot arms raised, the statue celebrates British imperialism - the very concept she fought against - and stands in the city she once burned to the ground. ○



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How should Boudicca be treated by history: as a cold-blooded killer or a brave fighter against oppression?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



Want to enjoy more history? Our monthly guide to activities and resources is a great place to start

HERE & NOW

HOW TO VISIT... GEORGIAN HOUSES 90 • BOOKS 94

ON OUR RADAR

What's caught our attention this month...

EVENT

Secrets of Stonehenge

Every day this half term, there are special events taking place at the world-famous Neolithic site of Stonehenge in Wiltshire.

Families can see what life was like in **the Stone Age** and get to know the prehistoric peoples who lived in the area and built the extraordinary monument.

Stonehenge is over 5,000 years old, meaning that it is **older than the pyramids of Egypt**. The structure is steeped in mystery and there is still so much unknown about its history. Maybe you can help reveal a long-lost secret this half term.

Runs 16-20 February, free for all Stonehenge ticket holders. More info at www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/events/secrets-of-the-stones



Children will have the hands-on opportunity to see Neolithic-style materials, equipment and tools – this volunteer is explaining footwear in prehistoric times

EXHIBITION

Staying Power

A new photo exhibition at London's Victoria and Albert Museum will feature some of the most striking images taken by black British photographers in the **last 60 years**. Staying Power hopes to show how black British communities have contributed and changed British culture and society in the 20th century.

Opens at the V&A on 16 February
www.vam.ac.uk

The exhibition also aims to collect oral histories from British black communities



Host Brad Meltzer tracks lost treasures

TV

Lost History

H2, Mondays at 9pm

Part history programme, part detective series, *Lost History* hunts down historic objects thought to be lost – viewers who help locate something can get a **cash reward**!

TWITTER

Historic Royal Palaces

@HRP_palaces

As we mark the 500th anniversary of the laying of the foundations of **Hampton Court Palace** by Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, follow the events at the historic royal palaces around London.





The kilt was a standard part of military dress for Scottish WWI soldiers

EXHIBITION

Scotland's Great War

This is your last chance to see *Next of Kin: Scottish Families and the Great War* at the National War Museum, Edinburgh. The powerful exhibition explores **the impact World War I had on people all over Scotland** through the objects they left behind, from postcards, letters and photos to service medals and memorials.

Ends 8 February before touring Scotland until 2017.



Stoneywell is a 20-minute drive from Leicester

HISTORIC HOME

All's well at Stoneywell

In the Leicestershire countryside sits Stoneywell, a summer home designed during the **Arts and Crafts movement**. After several months of closure, Stoneywell and its beautiful gardens are re-opening to the public. **Opens 3 February, booking is required – plan your trip at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stoneywell**



The five-man crew of the M4A3E8 Sherman tank *Fury* – led by Sergeant Don 'Wardaddy' Collier (Pitt)

FILM

Tanks for the memories

Fury

On DVD and Blu-ray
23 February

By **April 1945**, the Nazis were in full retreat and it seemed that World War II was finally reaching its end. But that didn't mean the killing had

stopped. Starring **Brad Pitt** as a war-weary Sherman tank commander, *Fury* – which will be released on DVD and Blu-ray this month – follows the Allies' push towards Berlin and their hard-fought battles.

It's a thrilling action movie with much to say on the

horrors of war. And for the tank enthusiasts, there's a thrilling fight against an actual German Tiger tank. Director David Ayer was given permission to use the **only operating Tiger I left** in the world – on loan from The Tank Museum in Dorset.

CONCERT

Love and lutes

Enjoy an afternoon of love songs from the **Renaissance period**, performed on the lute. The concert features music from composers Alfonso Ferrabosco, John Dowland and others.

13 February, 2pm, at National Museum Cardiff. Book your place at the museum's information desk

APP



History: Maps of World

FREE / Seungbin Cho

With **178 historical maps** to browse, this app can keep you entranced for hours.

EXHIBITION

Winning the war

Discover how Winston Churchill's fascination with science **helped the Allies** win World War II and fostered scientific achievement – including the production of penicillin.

Churchill's Scientists is at the Science Museum, London

The molecular model for penicillin, created by Dorothy Hodgkin c1945



▶ ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

- ▶ Discover with Darwin – a host of family-friendly scientific events at Charles Darwin's birthplace, Down House in Kent, 17-21 February
- ▶ Be a spectator at the annual historic pancake race at Olney, Buckinghamshire, 17 February
- ▶ *Mr Turner* is released on DVD, 23 February

CLOSE QUARTERS

Despite the grandeur upstairs, kitchens were plain working rooms



HIDDEN DORMER WINDOWS

A balustrade around the edge of the roof imitated ancient Roman design, while hiding the small windows of the servants' quarters in the attics.

HOW TO VISIT...

GEORGIAN HOUSES

Rupert Matthews explores the much-celebrated architectural period that married elegance and uniformity

The clean, refined lines of Georgian domestic architecture revolutionised house design in the early 18th century and remain popular with developers, architects and the public into the 21st century.

The Georgian era marked the first time an architectural style had spread beyond the halls of the moneyed classes to affect the homes of middle- and working-class families. The building of Georgian towns coincided with the early years of the Industrial Revolution, which had led to a population shift from country to town. This, in turn, led to a building boom that ensured the streets of many of our urban centres became filled with Georgian houses.

Like the preceding Baroque style, Georgian architecture drew inspiration from Ancient Greece and Rome. Columns, pediments and architraves dominated, but gone were the dramatic flourishes that had made the Baroque so theatrical. In their place came elegant simplicity.

The greater prosperity of the increasing urban middle classes led to the widespread building of comfortable houses, some of them verging on the grand. Older urban landscapes of a few large mansions adjacent to teeming slums were replaced by planned middle-class estates. Increasingly, these new-style houses were built on innovative streets with crescents, squares and circles linked by wide streets with generous pavements. The emphasis on clean lines and symmetry produced some of Britain's finest urban streetscapes.

However, the grand sweeps of terraces and curves often masked an untidy jumble. Many houses with matching facades had ugly, mismatched rears where the staff toiled or where the lower classes lived in smaller, less well-built copies of the grand houses of their betters.

TURN OVER...

for six of the best Georgian houses to visit

PILASTER

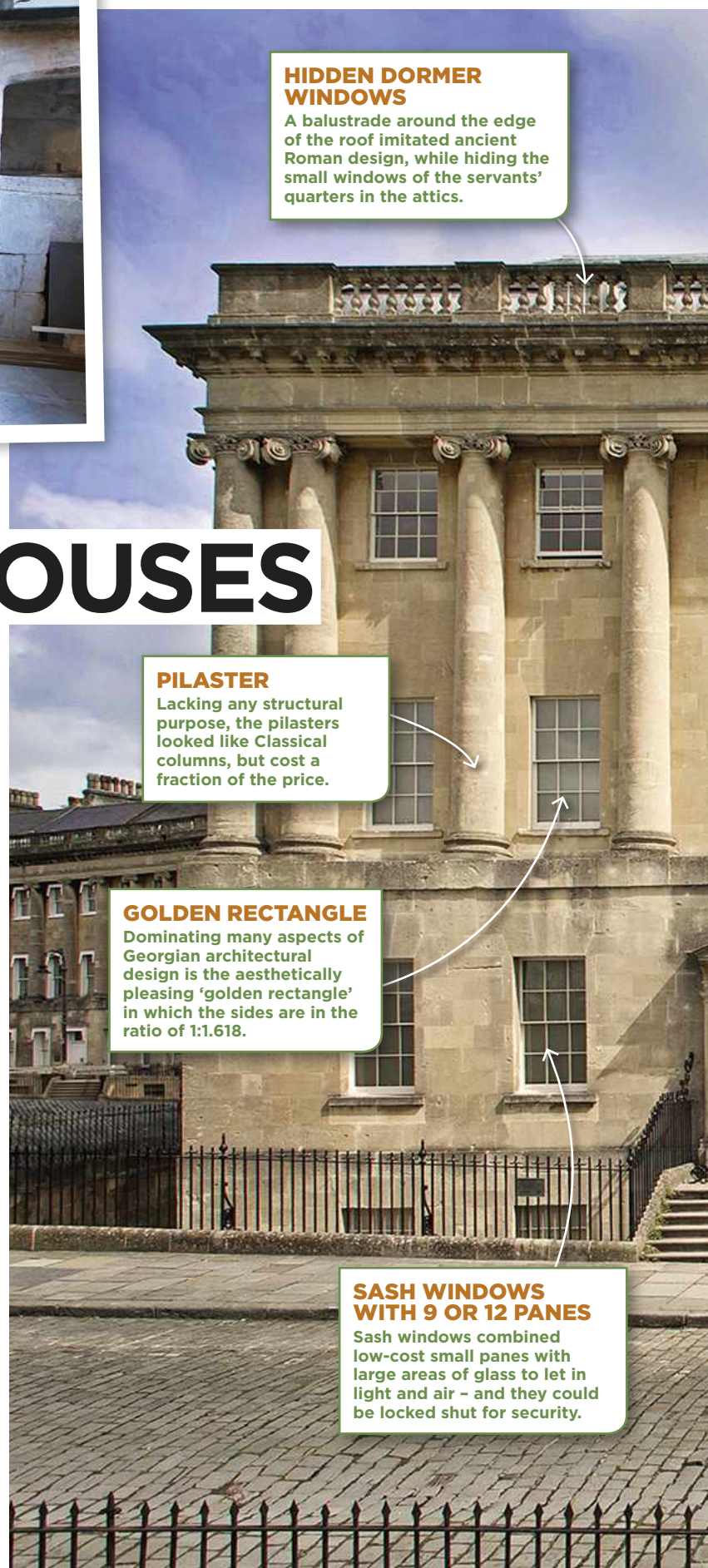
Lacking any structural purpose, the pilasters looked like Classical columns, but cost a fraction of the price.

GOLDEN RECTANGLE

Dominating many aspects of Georgian architectural design is the aesthetically pleasing 'golden rectangle' in which the sides are in the ratio of 1:1.618.

SASH WINDOWS WITH 9 OR 12 PANES

Sash windows combined low-cost small panes with large areas of glass to let in light and air – and they could be locked shut for security.



CORNICE

Projecting ledges not only threw rainwater clear of the walls, they also allowed for elegant detailing that ran from one house to the next.

NO 1 ROYAL CRESCENT

Bath

No 1 Royal Crescent is both a museum, featuring the fully restored town house that dominates the east end of the Royal Crescent, and the headquarters of the Bath Preservation Trust. The Trust exists to preserve and enhance the Georgian character of Bath, the only city in the UK to be designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city has 6,500 listed buildings, which the Trust seeks to improve with the restoration of lost features such as railings, balustrades, windows and urns.
www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk

SYMMETRY

A strictly symmetrical facade with central doors and matching windows gave balance to the house's frontage.

TRANSOM LIGHT OVER PANELLED DOOR

The glass window over the front door allowed light into the entrance hall, which otherwise had no windows.

HALF BASEMENT

A floor positioned half underground that provided space for kitchens and other staff rooms. It received some natural light, but allowed the family reception rooms to remain on the ground floor.



UNDERSTATED GRANDEUR
After dinner, ladies would retire to the Withdrawing Room

SIX OF THE BEST GEORGIAN HOUSES



DUAL OCCUPANCY
Soho House contained
both a home and offices

SOHO HOUSE Handsworth, Birmingham

In the 1760s, industrialist Matthew Boulton built an integrated 'manufactory' at Handsworth that included not just the factory, but also a canal and his own palatial house. The house, now

fully restored, has magnificent ormolu and silver fixtures, along with other pieces, all made in the adjacent factory, plus a garden avenue of stone sphinxes.

www.bmag.org.uk/soho-house

PLAS LLANELLY Llanelli

One of the finest town houses in Wales, Plas Llanelly was built for the wealthy Stepney family in 1714, making this one of the earliest houses to be completed in the Georgian style. Now fully restored to its early grandeur and serving as a genealogy centre, the house boasts a cafe, shop, a visitor centre - and a ghost. www.llanelly-house.org.uk



HARDMAN'S HOUSE Liverpool

Rodney Street was built to the south of the old city between 1780 and 1830 for richer merchants seeking larger houses and cleaner air. No 59 was the home of noted

society photographer E Chambré Hardman. The house preserves his studio and much of his work. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardmans-house

APSLEY HOUSE London

Popularly known as 'No 1 London', Apsley House was built between 1771-78 by Robert Adam, before being substantially reworked between 1819 and 1831 for the Duke of Wellington. The house contains grand state rooms, including the

lavish Waterloo Gallery, which houses the Duke's art collection, plus Canova's magnificent marble statue of Napoleon, filched after the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/apsley-house

NO 7 CHARLOTTE SQ Edinburgh

By 1766, Edinburgh was crowded, dirty and unhealthy. A new town was planned to the north that would be exclusively residential with wide, airy streets and finely built houses. No 7 Charlotte Square today shows some 40,000 visitors a year how life was for its residents and servants alike.

www.nts.org.uk/Property/Georgian-House



FAIRFAX HOUSE York

Dominating Castlegate in central York, Fairfax House was built for Charles, Viscount Fairfax, in 1762. The city's most distinguished 18th-century architect, John Carr, was commissioned to create a magnificent mansion to serve as a venue for the Viscount's lavish hospitality. After a period of neglect in the mid-20th century, the building was acquired in 1982 by the York Civic Trust, which has fully restored what may be the finest Georgian interiors in the country. www.fairfaxhouse.co.uk



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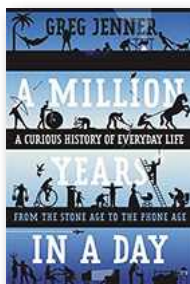
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BOOKS

BOOK OF THE MONTH

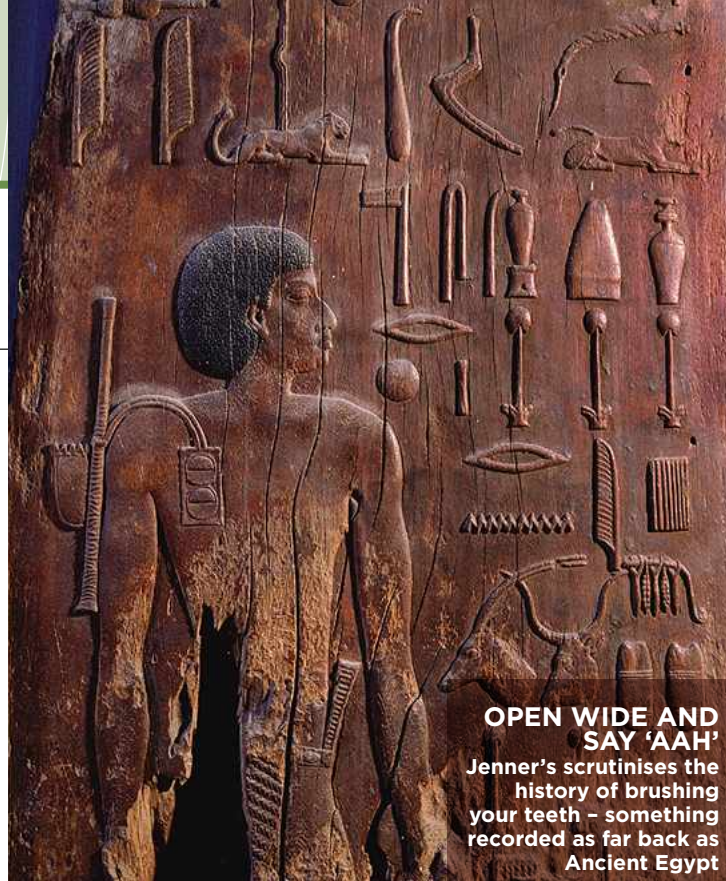


A Million Years in a Day: a Curious History of Everyday Life

By Greg Jenner

Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £14.99,
368 pages, hardback

You may not have time, as you leave the house for work, to ponder how your daily routine is similar to that of, say, a Roman aristocrat or a Victorian family. Luckily Greg Jenner, historical consultant for *Horrible Histories* and regular *History Revealed* contributor, has done it for you. The results are packed into this hugely entertaining book – from what a 19th-century alarm clock looked like (a man with a stick) to the peculiar ‘medical’ background to cornflakes, there are astonishing insights into the origins of our own everyday life.



OPEN WIDE AND SAY ‘AAH’
Jenner’s scrutinises the history of brushing your teeth – something recorded as far back as Ancient Egypt



MEET THE AUTHOR

Greg Jenner hopes we stop thinking of the people of the ancient past as primitive idiots – they were much more advanced than you may think

“History doesn’t repeat itself – people do!”

What first inspired you to write this book?

The success of *Horrible Histories* proved my long-held belief that learning about the past can be enjoyable as well as edifying. I hope to make history accessible to those adults who might be

intimidated by chunky history books. History is the sum total of the human experience – it should be for everyone!

What most surprised you while writing this book?

I had wanted to find some sense of continuity throughout all

of human history, but it was new archaeological discoveries from the Stone Age that really surprised me. It’s astounding that people slept on mattresses woven from leaves nearly 80,000 years ago, or that dental surgery is thousands of years older than Stonehenge. It’s also barmy to think that toilet infrastructure was more sophisticated in Bronze Age Pakistan than it was in Britain only 250 years ago!

What invention has most changed our daily routine?

The invention of reliable timekeeping technologies. Until the 1300s, an hour was actually shorter (about 45 minutes) in the winter and longer in the summer (closer to 75). Another huge change was artificial lighting, which extended our winter

bedtimes beyond nightfall, thereby allowing for the custom of three meals per day. Until then, summer and winter routines were very different.

How would you like this book to change how we see our ancestors?

I hope it stops us thinking of them as primitive idiots. It’s a funny comedy idea to have people in the past being numpties, but every society in history had to solve the same problems as us, using the technology and customs of their age.

What’s interesting is that they all had different ‘right answers’. Washing with water was believed to be bad for your health in the 17th century, as clogged up pores were believed to stop the plague.

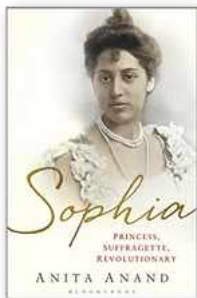
Every society thinks it is the pinnacle of human achievement, but it’s amazing how often the newly adopted ‘good’ ideas soon get abandoned for the previous set of ‘bad’ ones. History doesn’t repeat itself, people do. And the routine things we do every day of our lives have been done for tens of thousands of years.



NEXT TO GODLINESS

Where would we be without it? Jenner scrubs up on how we washed ourselves before soap’s blessed introduction

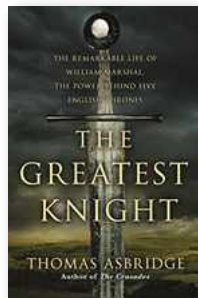
THE BEST OF THE REST



Sophia: Princess, Suffragette, Revolutionary

By Anita Anand
Bloomsbury Publishing, £20, 432 pages, hardback

The daughter of a Maharaja, Queen Victoria's goddaughter and prominent suffragette, Sophia Duleep Singh packed a lot into her 72 years as she played an important role in Indian and British history. Yet she remains surprisingly little-known, a fact that this warm, insightful biography will hopefully remedy.



The Greatest Knight

By Thomas Asbridge
Simon and Schuster, £20, 432 pages, hardback

William Marshal was a real-life Lancelot – brave, chivalrous and a powerful character behind the throne. In this intimate biography of the 13th-century explorer and knight, the world of the Middle Ages – a time of kings and queens, brutal battles and courtly nobility – is brought to life. It's involved, detailed and gripping.



After Hitler: the Last Days of the Second World War in Europe

By Michael Jones
John Murray, £25, 400 pages, hardback

As such a recognisable and universally reviled figure of the 20th century, Adolf Hitler tends to overshadow what happened after his suicide. This book tells that story, as the German capital Berlin crumbled and tensions between the US, UK and Soviet Union rose.

READ UP ON...

THE STONE AGE

BEST FOR... AN INTRODUCTION A History of Ancient Britain

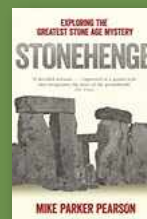
By Neil Oliver
Phoenix, £9.99, 480 pages, paperback



What was life like in Ancient Britain? Who were the first Britons and where did they come from? If you're looking to embark on a historical journey back into the (very) distant past, this is a great place to start. Neil Oliver explores what surviving artefacts can tell us about our Stone Age ancestors and how they survived.

BEST FOR... STONEHENGE Stonehenge: Exploring the Greatest Stone Age Mystery

By Mike Parker Pearson
Simon and Schuster, £9.99, 416 pages, paperback



Stonehenge is one of the most famous Stone Age landmarks, yet it remains shrouded in mystery. For the last decade Mike Parker Pearson has led the Stonehenge Riverside Project in the hope of uncovering the secrets of the site and the people who built it as well as how Stonehenge may have been linked to other nearby structures.

BEST FOR... A WIDER VIEW Britain Begins

By Barry Cunliffe
OUP Oxford, £25, 568 pages, paperback



How do we get from the Stone Age of fire and flint to the Norman Conquest, thousands of years later? That's the scope of this epic book, which uses the latest archaeological evidence to chart the emergence of British and Irish peoples and their lives, relationships and myths.

MAGNA-FIQUE

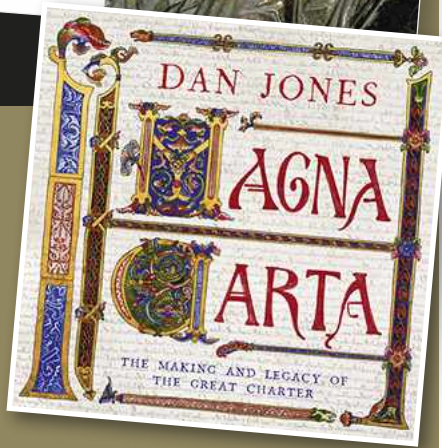


THE PEN IS MIGHTIER King John was forced to sign the Magna Carta by the English barons – even though he knew it would limit his powers

Magna Carta: the Making and Legacy of the Great Charter

By Dan Jones
Head of Zeus, £14.99, 144 pages, hardback

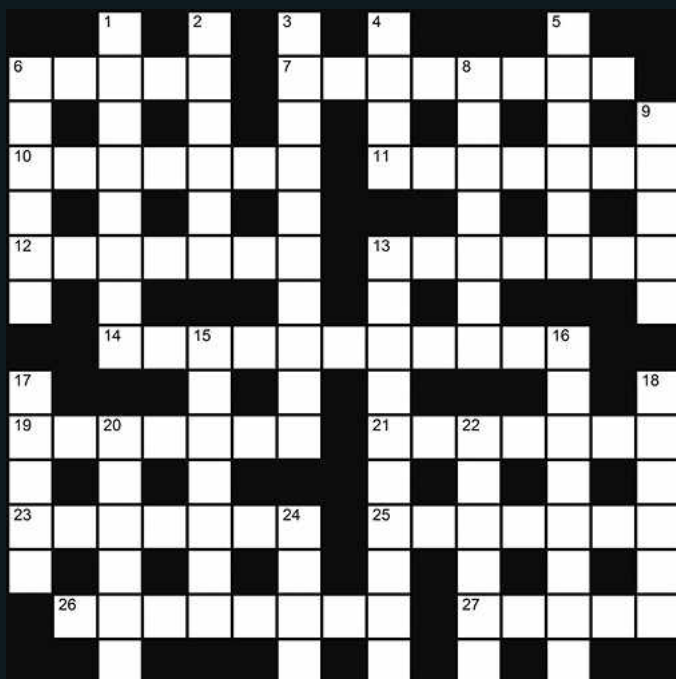
This year marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta, a milestone document in the history of England's politics. This beautifully presented guide, by leading historian and broadcaster Dan Jones, offers a compelling narrative of the charter's origins and legacy.



CROSSWORD N° 13

You could be one of three prize winners if you complete this month's historical crossword

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

- 6** Romano ____, President of the European Commission 1999-2004 (5)
7 Capital of the United Arab Emirates (3,5)
10 The title character in Shakespeare's play *The Merchant Of Venice* (7)
11 Warren G ____ (1865-1923), US President from 1921 to 1923 (7)
12 The Children's ____, religious movement of 1212 that sought to re-conquer Jerusalem (7)
13 ____ Cordiale, Anglo-French agreements of April 1904 (7)
14 Henry ____ (1367-1413), crowned Henry IV in 1399, named after castle in which he was born (11)

- 19** Relating to a branch of Orthodox Judaism that dates from the 18th century (7)
21 '____ Blood', old Navy slang for rum (7)
23 18th-century war-chief of the Native American Ottawa tribe, murdered in 1769; also a brand of car (7)
25 "The medium is the ____" - phrase coined by philosopher Marshall McLuhan (7)
26 The Greek god of the seas (8)
27 Indigenous people of Arctic Greenland, Canada and the US (5)

DOWN

- 1** General ____, stage-name of the 19th-century circus star Charles Sherwood Stratton (3,5)
2 City in which the composers Franz Schubert and Johann Strauss were born (6)
3/24 Civil legal framework of France, established in 1804 (10,4)
4 Book of the Old Testament, named after its protagonist, great-grandmother of David (4)
5 Flann ____, pen-name of the Irish satirist Brian O'Nolan (1911-66), also known as Myles na gCopaleen (6)
6 Max ____ (1858-1947), German physicist and pioneer of quantum mechanics (6)
8 The trusted friend of Hamlet in Shakespeare's play of that name (7)
9 *The Eve Of St* ____, 1820 poem by John Keats (5)
13 Thames-side construction begun in 1862 and named in part after Queen Victoria (10)
15 Textile-industry protestor of the period 1811-17 (7)
16 Roman name for the city of York (8)
17 'I see no ____' - said by Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Copenhagen, 1801 (5)
18 *The ____ of Man*, celebrated 1973 documentary series by Jacob Bronowski (6)
20 Brazilian football club known chiefly for its association with Pelé (6)
22 Fictional collie dog played by 'Pal' in six Hollywood films between 1943 and 1950 (6)
24 See 3

CHANCE TO WIN...

A History of the 20th Century in 100 Maps

by Tom Harper & Tim Bryars

Fascinating look at the legacy of 20th-century conflict, from top-secret documents to mass propaganda

Published by the British Library, £25.

HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to **History Revealed, February 2015 Crossword, PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 0AA** or email them to **February2015@historyrevealedcomps.co.uk** by noon on **1 March 2015**. By entering, participants agree to be bound by the terms and conditions shown in the box below. Immediate Media Co Ltd, publishers of *History Revealed*, would love to keep you informed by post or telephone of special offers and promotions from the Immediate Media Co Group. Please write 'Do Not Contact IMC' if you prefer not to receive such information by post or phone. If you would like to receive this information by email, please write your email address on the entry. You may unsubscribe from receiving these messages at any time. For more about the Immediate Privacy Policy see the box below.



BOOK WORTH £25 FOR THREE WINNERS

SOLUTION N° 11



CROSSWORD COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS

The competition is open to all UK residents (inc. Channel Islands), aged 18 or over, except Immediate Media Co Bristol Ltd employees or contractors, and anyone connected with the competition or their direct family members. By entering, participants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and that their name and county may be released if they win. Only one entry per person.

The closing date and time is as shown under **How to Enter**, above. Entries received after that will not be considered. Entries cannot be returned. Entrants must supply full name, address and daytime phone number. Immediate Media Company (publishers of *History Revealed*) will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition, and will not publish them or provide them to anyone without permission. Read more about the Immediate Privacy Policy at www.immediatemediaco.co.uk/privacy-policy.

The winning entrants will be the first correct entries drawn at random after the closing time. The prize and number of winners will be as shown on the Crossword page. There is no cash alternative and the prize will not be transferable. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited's decision is final and no correspondence relating to the competition will be entered into. The winners will be notified by post within 28 days of the close of the competition. The name and county of residence of the winners will be published in the magazine within two months of the

closing date. If the winner is unable to be contacted within one month of the closing date, Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited reserves the right to offer the prize to a runner-up. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited reserves the right to amend these terms and conditions or to cancel, alter or amend the promotion at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, or if circumstances arise outside of its control. The promotion is subject to the laws of England. Promoter: Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited

NEXT MONTH

ON SALE **2 MARCH 2015**

.....



HENRY VIII

THE TROUBLED MAN BEHIND THE LEGEND

ALSO NEXT MONTH...

THE EIFFEL TOWER THE BATTLE OF THE
ALAMO **MARILYN MONROE** MACHU PICCHU
HITLER'S DIARIES THE STORY OF ASTRONOMY
RUSSIAN REVOLUTION POL POT'S KILLING
FIELDS **Q&A AND MUCH MORE...**

HISTORY
REVEALED Bringing the past to life

A-Z of History

The second instalment of a new series, taking a sideways – and alphabetical – look at history. Words: **Nige Tassell**

BEDLAM

Receiving its first recorded psychiatric patients in 1403, by the 17th century the Bethlem Royal Hospital (aka 'Bedlam') was one of London's most popular tourist attractions. In return for a penny or two, the public were granted admission to gawp at the asylum's patients for entertainment. The proceeds helped fund its running costs.

BABYLON

The Hanging Gardens of Babylon remain the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World whose precise location has never been determined. Believed to have been located in either Babil or Nineveh provinces in present-day Iraq, this uncertainty has led to speculation that the gardens never actually existed.



BLACK DEATH

During the seven years between 1346 and 1353, the Black Death is estimated to have reduced the population of Europe by as much as 60%. This equates to 50 million people, at least four times the number who lost their lives in World War I.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

As a boy, the future Italian dictator was extremely disruptive at school. Not only did he once throw an inkpot at one of his teachers, but he was also later expelled for stabbing a fellow student in the hand. However, this dissent towards the education system didn't stop him later gaining the necessary qualifications to become a teacher himself.



BRUNEL AND BOX TUNNEL

Ever since he drew up plans for the construction of Box Tunnel as part of his Great Western Railway, Isambard Kingdom Brunel has intrigued engineers, astronomers and railway enthusiasts alike. It has often been speculated that the great engineer's exact placement of the one-and-three-quarter-mile tunnel under Box Hill in Wiltshire was decided upon so that the sunrise on the morning of his birthday, 9 April, would be visible right through its arrow-straight length.

Bloody Mary

By the time she was just six years old, two contracts of marriage had already been signed for Henry VIII's eldest daughter Mary Tudor (aka the future Bloody Mary). One was to the son of King Francis I of France; the other was to her first cousin, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V.



BUCHANAN

Serving between 1857 and 1861, James Buchanan Jr is the only US president never to have married. In his younger days, he had been engaged, but his fiancée died in 1819. On her death, he lamented: "I feel happiness has fled me forever". Based on his subsequent, very close relationship with future vice-president William Rufus King, many historians also believe him to be the US's first gay president.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Washington Roebling was the civil engineer charged with overseeing the construction of Brooklyn Bridge but, shortly after work began on the project in 1870, he developed a paralysing illness linked to decompression sickness. Unable to work on site, Roebling orchestrated the 13-year build using the view from his apartment's window.





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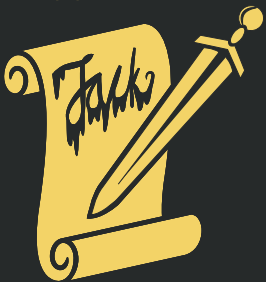
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1888

The Central News Office in London received a letter signed by 'Jack the Ripper'.



1926

A sheep found buried under 10 tons of coal was rescued and adopted as a mascot by the coal tippers at Swansea Docks.



THE TOP-HAT IN 1797.

The *Hatter's Gazette* reprints from an old journal, dated January 16th, 1797, the following amusing account of the wearing of the first silk hat in London:—"John Hetherington, haberdasher, of the Strand, was arraigned before the Lord Mayor yesterday on a charge of breach of the peace, and inciting to riot, and was required to give bonds in the sum of £500. It was in evidence that Mr. Hetherington, who is well connected, appeared on the public highway wearing upon his head what he called a silk hat (which was offered in evidence), a tall structure having a shiny lustre, and calculated to frighten timid people. As a matter

1797

A gentleman was arrested for breach of the peace after wearing the first top hat and causing several women to faint.



THE NOTTINGHAM EVENING

FACSIMILES OF "JACK THE RIPPER'S" LETTER AND POST CARD.

25 Sept. 1888

Dear Boss

I keep on hearing the police have caught me, but they won't fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That pore about leather apron gave me real

THE QUESTION OF HORSELESS CARRIAGES.—

At the Tunbridge Police-court, Mr. Walter Arnold, the owner of a horseless carriage, was summoned on four informations with reference to using a horseless carriage on the highway. The first was for using a locomotive without a horse from the County Council, the second for having less than three persons in charge of the same, the third for going at a greater rate than two miles an hour, and the fourth for not having his name and address placed on the machine.—The evidence was that the carriage was going at the rate of eight miles an hour.—Mr. Cripps, who defended, contended that the machine was not one contemplated when the Locomotive Acts were passed, and said that

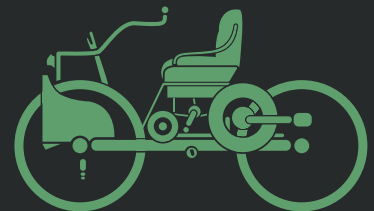
QUEEN

ST. OLAV

In this Vauxhall spect of the defence Bigham, plaintiffs represent the case of lordship's the defence had been

1896

Walter Arnold became the first British person to be fined for speeding in January. He had been travelling at a reckless 8mph.



SHEEP AS MASCOT

Coal Tippers Adopt an Animal They Saved

The sheep which was found buried under ten tons of coal in a railway truck at Swansea Docks has been presented to the coal tippers by the animal's owner.

This is in recognition and appreciation of the humane manner in which they cared for and treated the exhausted animal.

When found it had apparently been in the truck six days, covered all the time by the coal.

The coal tippers have decided to keep the animal as a mascot.

police as a constable, transferred to the Pub Department at Scotland it was soon discovered the amazing aptitude for traffic problems. In the he served for 36 years.

NEWPORT-PARIS

Sick Woman's Journey Motor and P

An aeroplane fitted as figured in a remarkable Newport (Mon.) to Paris terday in the space of minutes.

The passenger, a sick

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